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Outdoors

September 1949

THE LAWS
FOR 1949

pages 6 and 7

SHING
TEST

6,500

th of prizes

see page 17

in the cover:
"black birds only"
Fred Sweeney



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AN ANECDOTE about AN ANGLER

Once there was a guy who decided to take up trout-fishing. So he sat down and made a list of things every well-equipped fisherman should have. It went like this:

- 1 pair hip boots
- 1 landing net
- 1 creel
- 1 rod
- 1 reel
- 1 line
- 1 leader
- 1 trout fly
- 1 Nash Airflyte

Then, being the kind of bird who doesn't go off half-cocked, he decided to check the list with a friend who was an expert angler.

"That's a ridiculous list," the friend said. "Positively ridiculous."

"What's ridiculous about it?" the beginner said.

"That item, '1 Nash Airflyte,'" the expert said. "You should have two Nash Airflytes."

"Why two?" said the beginner.

"Because you don't want your wife tagging along every time you go fishing," the expert said. "So you get a Nash Airflyte for her, too. She won't care much about the whopping 28-cubic-foot luggage compartment, or the increased road

clearance, or the 20-gallon gas tank, or any of the features that make it the ideal car for sportsmen."

"Yes," said the beginner, "but—"

"Maybe she won't even care about the overnight sleeping advantages of the Twin Bed arrangement, and the plastic window screens. Or the way the bed makes up singly, so one person can drive while his partner catches a nap on long trips."

"Sure," said the beginner, "only—"

"But oh boy!" said the expert. "Will she go for the roominess! And the super-smooth comfort of that coil-spring-cushioned Airflyte ride! And the way it handles! And the one-piece, sky-wide, undivided curved windshield."

"Naturally," said the beginner, "except—"

"Believe me," said the expert, "she'll be positively goofy about the Airflyte's smart streamlining—and the pressurized, thermostatically controlled Weather Eye Conditioned Air System!"

"No doubt," said the beginner, "but—"

"She won't want to go fishing with you," said the expert. "She'll

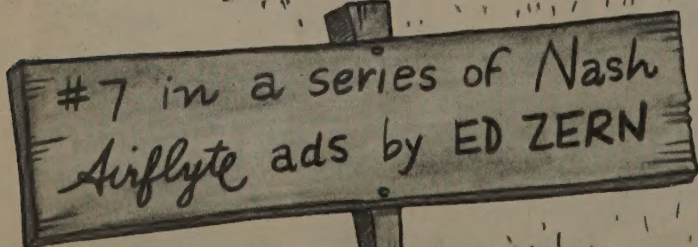
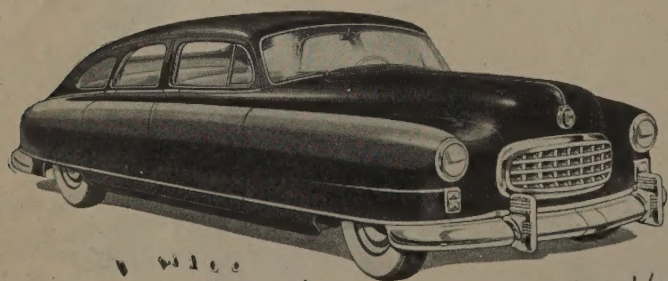
just want to zoom around in her own Airflyte! And with the Airflyte '600' getting more than 25 miles to the gallon of gas at average highway speed, you can afford to let her zoom her fool head off!"

"That's all very well," the beginner said, "but my wife left me last week. Flew the coop. Didn't even say goodbye."

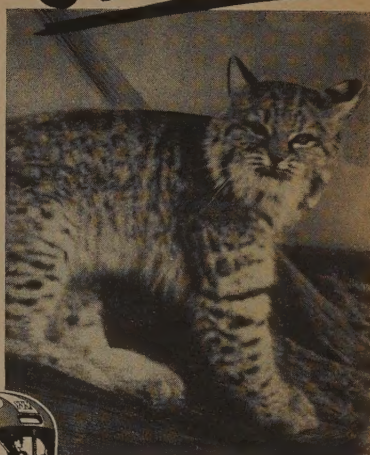
"Oh!" said the expert. "That's too bad. But don't worry—the minute she hears you have a Nash Airflyte, she'll come back."

"Hmmm!" said the beginner. "I hadn't thought of that!" So he went downtown and bought a pair of hip boots, a landing net, a creel, a rod, a reel, a line, a leader, and a trout fly.

MORAL: If you absolutely have to, you can get along without a Nash Airflyte.



FIN FEATHER OR FUR



Greyhound goes where the Sport is best!

EXPERTS LIST THE BETTER SPOTS FOR AUTUMN HUNTING

PHEASANTS, from Pennsylvania to Oregon, with a heavy concentration in the Dakotas.

QUAIL, throughout the South from Florida to California, and particularly good this season in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

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MOOSE, CARIBOU, SHEEP, GOAT, AND BEAR hunting is best in Western Canada and Alaska.

RUSSIAN BOAR hunting is enjoyed in the mountains of eastern Tennessee.

PRONGHORN ANTELOPE hunting is especially good in Colorado, Arizona, and Wyoming.

GROUSE AND PARTRIDGE are running heavy in the Canadian prairies.

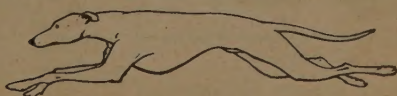
MOUNTAIN LION hunting is found in Utah, Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, Colorado, Idaho, Washington, British Columbia, and Mexico.

With Autumn in the air you've a date to keep at your favorite outdoor spot, where fishing or hunting are at their finest.

Keeping that date is a lot easier and a lot more pleasant when you go Greyhound, for Greyhound travel is so much more economical. It's carefree travel, too, because there are no long hours of tedious driving. Going Greyhound you relax, arrive refreshed and ready.

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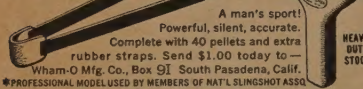
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RED-FEATHER SERVICES

Outdoors

Vol. XVII

No. 9

H. G. TAPPLY
Editor

E. C. JANES
Associate Editor



JACK MURRAY
Art Director

September, 1949

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Cover painting by Fred Sweney

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICES: One year, \$2; two years, \$3; three years, \$4. Canada, Philippines and foreign, 50c extra for each 12 issues. Single copies: 20c. Back numbers older than six months, 25c each.
Entered as second-class matter at the post office at DAYTON, OHIO, under the act of March 3, 1879. Published by The Open Road Publishing Company. Printed in the U.S.A. Manuscripts should be sent to the Boston office and should be accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and sufficient postage for return. Copyright, 1949, by The Open Road Publishing Company. The publisher assumes no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts. Change of address should be reported as far in advance as possible, giving both old and new addresses, to Outdoors, 136 Federal St., Boston 10, Mass.

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OUTDOORS

The advertisement displays six handguns arranged in a grid-like fashion, each with a label indicating its model, price, and specifications. The items are:

- H&R "922"**: \$24.75. 22 Target Revolver Barrel. 9 Shot. 6".
- H&R Sportman**: \$44.95. 22 Target Revolver Barrel. 9 Shot. 6".
- S&W "Masterpiece"**: \$85.00. K-22, K-32 and K-33. 22 Auto. Spine Metal. 10 Shot. 4 1/2" or 5".
- HI Standard GB Auto**: \$50.00. 22 Long Rifle Auto. 10 Shot. 4 1/2" or 5".
- S&W "38/44"**: \$64.00. 38 S&W Caliber Barrel. 5 Shot. 6".
- Colt "Woodman"**: \$60.00. 22 Auto. Spine Metal. 10 Shot. 4 1/2" or 5".

At the bottom, a large banner reads "KLEIN'S" in bold, stylized letters, followed by "GUN STORE" in a smaller font. Below this, the text "LIVE MORE WITH HANDGUNS!" is written in a bold, sans-serif font.

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S&W Reg. Pol. Cal. 2", 3", 4", 5", or 6", Blue.	\$4.50
Model 1000—6 shot, 1/2" barrel, K-22 shorts 22 Short, Long, or Long Rifle cartridges; K-32 shorts 32 S&W Short or Long Rifle cartridges; K-38 shorts 38 S&W Short or Long Rifle cartridges; and K-38 shorts 38 Special Service & Target State shots.	\$63.00
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H&R Standard D.D. 22 Auto, 4 1/2" or 6 1/2" Barrel.	\$6.00
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ALL OUTDOORS

**A round-up of news for
sportsmen everywhere**

THE New Hampshire General Court has passed a bill to open lakes which both in that state and another to fishing by persons holding either state's license. Massachusetts already has such a law and a bill before the Maine legislature will accomplish the same purpose. Hence, it appears that all lakes which straddle the New Hampshire border will be available for reciprocal fishing privileges.

TOURISTS who receive courteous and efficient service from the police of Sherbrooke, Quebec, will learn that it is not by chance. Last year the town organized lectures for all members of the police force, dealing with courtesy and hospitality, a description of all roads into and out of Sherbrooke, and the distances between each locality. A survey was made of Sherbrooke's restaurants, grills and garages and to complete the officers' briefing, each was supplied with a booklet listing Sherbrooke street, all cabins and recommended tourist homes, highway routes, mileages and emergency telephone numbers.

AT THE 50th annual meeting of the New Brunswick Guides' Association, Fredericton, N. B., members declared themselves in favor of a moose survey of the province in order to determine what progress has been made in the restoration of this game animal. There has been a closed season on moose in New Brunswick since 1932.

THE state experimental game and farm at Poynette, Wisconsin, is open to the public during the summer months and annually attracts thousands of visitors, many of whom enjoy picnicking on the grounds.

Exhibition pens contain a variety of Wisconsin birds and animals as well as some non-native species. Right now the farm is hard at work producing 200,000 pheasants for hunters this fall.

OUTDOOR

IMMEDIATE contact with field forces, elimination of red tape and greater economy in communication are some of the benefits expected when the *Michigan* Conservation Department gets the green light from the Federal Communications Commission on its proposed radio network. A transmitter located atop the state office building in Lansing will send messages to the automatic repeater station at Stanton which will rebroadcast to 20 FM-fixed stations throughout the state. Fire towers and mobile units in conservation department cars and airplanes will operate on the new frequency.

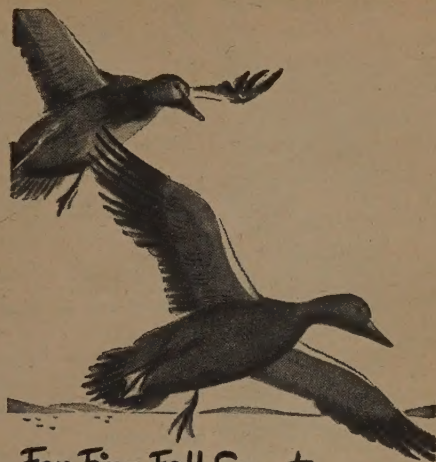
IT TOOK *Missouri* squirrel hunters one man-hour to bag three-fourths of a squirrel. These figures are based on the 5,031 hunters checked last season who had in their possession 7,329 squirrels after spending 9,653 hours at their sport. Fox squirrels predominated except in the Ozark plateau where the grays held a strong lead.

PLANNING A TRIP?

LET George Robey help you to iron out the details of your vacation this year. He can tell you where to go for good fishing and hunting—how to get there and the approximate cost. Our trip-planning service is designed to help you get more enjoyment from your vacation. Address your letters to Trip-planning Service, OUTDOORS, 136 Federal Street, Boston 10, Mass. Tell us as much as you can of your plans. Include such details as the means by which you plan to travel, number of persons in the party, and the length of time you plan to stay. A 3-cent stamp will bring a personal reply from Mr. Robey.

THE first cooperative antelope survey in the Northwest has recently been successfully completed by *Oregon*, *California*, *Nevada* and *Idaho*. These states joined forces to make simultaneous airplane counts of the antelope herds overlapping in the four states. In 116 hours of flying time, the air census showed 14,359 antelope. Robert Mace, big game chief for the Oregon Conservation Commission, pointed out that these figures do not represent the total population but will be used to make comparisons in other years to establish trends.

THIRTY million is a pretty sizeable figure, even applied to trout eggs. That's the number which the state of *Washington* collects annually from its Lake Whatcom Hatchery, the largest operation of its kind in the country. These are the eggs of the silver trout which scientists declare is a landlocked sockeye salmon, trapped in Lake Whatcom several hundred thousand years before you were born when the passage between lake and sea became closed.



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come to *Québec*

The roar of countless wings still beats over the myriad unspoiled lakes and rivers of La Province de Québec. Whether you come after duck or geese, deer or bear, you will find good hunting in Québec. Competent guides await you, and you will be welcomed with old-fashion hospitality in comfortable inns and hotels.

LA PROVINCE DE
 Québec

For help planning your vacation, or for information concerning the unsurpassed industrial opportunities in our province, write the Provincial Publicity Bureau, Parliament Buildings, Québec City, Canada; or 48 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City 20.

Game Laws for 1949

† Means 1949 regulations not available
 ‡ Means these laws are not state-wide

* Means that males only may be taken
 If in doubt, check local authorities

STATE & SPECIES	LIMITS Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ALABAMA*		
Quail	8	8 (poss.) Nov. 25-Feb. 20
Squirrel	6	6 (poss.) Oct. 16-Jan. 1a
Rabbit	6	6 (poss.) Oct. 16-Feb. 20
Deer*	1	1 (poss.) Nov. 25-Jan. 1
Turkey*	1	1 Nov. 25-Jan. 1†
North of Highway 80		
South of Highway 80		
LICENSE FEES: Res., State, \$3; Res., Co., \$1; Non-res., \$25; Non-res., 7 days, \$5.		
ARIZONA†		
Deer	1	1 Oct. 29-Nov. 14†
Elk	1	1 Oct. 16-Oct. 20†
Turkey	1	1 Oct. 9-Oct. 13†
Javelina	1	1 Mar. 1-31
Rabbit	6	6 Dec. 15-Jan. 31†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.50; Non-res., gen., \$25; Non-res., small, \$10; Alien, gen., \$100; Alien, small, \$40; Antelope permit, \$5. Extra permits possible.		
ARKANSAS*		
Squirrel	8	16 (poss.) Oct. 1-Dec. 31
Quail	8	10 (poss.) Dec. 1-Jan. 15
Deer*	1	2 Oct. 9-12†
Turkey	—	— Closed season
Phasant, prairie chicken, chukar, Hun. partridge	—	— Closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$25; Non-res., small, \$15.		
CALIFORNIA		
Quail	8	16 (wk.) Nov. 18-Dec. 31†
Deer	2	2 Oct. 15-Nov. 14†
Tree Squirrel	2	2 Nov. 18-Dec. 31†
Elk	1	1 Oct. 1-Dec. 31†
Deer*	8	16 (wk.) Nov. 18-Dec. 31†
Antelope*	1†	2† Aug. 27-Sept. 5
Elk	1	1 Dec. 2-11†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3; Res., jr., \$1; Non-res., \$10.		
COLORADO		
Deer*	1	1 Opens Oct. 15
Antelope*	1	1 Opens Oct. 15
Deer*	1	1 Opens Oct. 15
Phasant*	3	3 (poss.) Oct. 15-Dec. 31†
Rabbit, hare	5 (agg.)	5 (poss.) To be announced
Quail	8	8 (poss.) To be announced
LICENSE FEES: Res., elk, \$10; Non-res., elk, \$50; Res., deer, \$7.50; Non-res., deer, \$40; Res., sheep, \$25; Res., antelope, \$10; Res., turkey, \$5; Res., goat, \$25; Non-res., small game, \$10.		
CONNECTICUT		
Quail	—	— To be announced
Phasant*	2	15 Oct. 15-Nov. 26
Grouse	2	15 Oct. 15-Nov. 26
Rabbit	3	30 Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Squirrel	5	30 Oct. 15-Nov. 26
No Sunday shooting.		
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$4.35; Non-res., \$11.35.		
DELAWARE		
Quail	12	— Nov. 15-Dec. 31
Phasant*	2	6 Nov. 15-Dec. 31
Rabbit	6	— Sept. 15-Nov. 1
Squirrel	6	— Sept. 15-Nov. 1
No Sunday shooting.		
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., season, \$15.50; Non-res., 5 days, \$5.50.		
FLORIDA*		
Deer*	1	2 Nov. 24-Jan. 5†
Turkey*	2	4 Nov. 24-Feb. 1†
Rabbit	12	4 Nov. 24-Feb. 1†
Marsh hen	20	— Nov. 24-Feb. 1†
Cat squirrel	3	— Nov. 24-Feb. 1†
Fox squirrel	3	— Nov. 24-Feb. 1†
LICENSE FEES: Res., State, \$7.50; Res., Co., \$2; Non-res., State, \$26.50; Non-res., 10-day, \$11.50.		
GEORGIA		
Quail	2	2 Nov. 15-Feb. 15†
Grouse	15	30 (wk.) Nov. 25-Feb. 25
Rabbit	3	3 (wk.) Nov. 20-Jan. 15
Deer	1	1 Nov. 10-Jan. 5
Squirrel	10	10 (wk.) Nov. 1-Jan. 5
Rabbit	8	— Nov. 1-Feb. 25
Opussum	—	— Oct. 1-Feb. 15
LICENSE FEES: Res., Co., \$1.25; Res., State, \$5.25; Non-res., Co., \$10.25; Non-res., State, \$20.25; Non-res., State, 10-day, \$10.25.		
IDAHO		
Quail	5	— Nov. 1-Nov. 21†
Hun. partridge	5	— Nov. 1-Nov. 21†
Phasant*	3	— Nov. 1-Nov. 21†
Rabbit	4	4 (poss.) Oct. 15-Nov. 15†
Antelope	1	1 Sept. 10, 11, 12†
Rear	1	1 Sept. 1-Nov. 15†
except grizzly	1	1 Sept. 26-30
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., big, \$50; Non-res., bird, \$20; Alien, \$75; Big game tags, elk, \$2; deer, \$1.		
ILLINOIS		
Quail	10	20 (poss.) Nov. 11-Dec. 11
Phasant*	2	2 (poss.) Nov. 11-Dec. 25
Squirrel	15	30 (poss.) Nov. 11-Jan. 31
NRE: Quail, phasant, rabbit seasons open at 12 noon.		
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$15.		
INDIANA		
Rabbit	5	10 (poss.) Nov. 10-Jan. 10
Squirrel	5	5 (poss.) To be announced
Quail (gray)	5	5 (poss.) Nov. 10-Dec. 20
Hun. partridge	10	10 (poss.) Nov. 10-Dec. 20
Phasant*	1	3 To be announced
No Sunday shooting.		
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$15.50.		

STATE & SPECIES	LIMITS Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
IOWA*		
Phasant*	2	4 (poss.) Nov. 11-30†
Squirrel	6	12 (poss.) Sept. 15-Nov. 15
Rabbit	10	10 Oct. 15-Jan. 1
Quail	8	8 Nov. 1-Dec. 15†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., reciprocal, \$5 min.		
KANSAS†		
Quail	8	16 Nov. 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, Dec. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9
Phasant*	3	6 Nov. 5, 6, 7, 9
Rabbit	8	16 June 15-Nov. 30
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., recip., \$5 min.		
KENTUCKY†		
Quail	10	20 (poss.) Nov. 20-Jan. 10
Rabbit	2	2 (poss.) Dec. 1-15
Squirrel	8	16 (poss.) Nov. 20-Jan. 10
LICENSE FEES: Res., State, \$3; Res., Co., \$1; Non-res., \$15.50.		
LOUISIANA†		
Deer	1	2 Nov. 15-Jan. 10†
Squirrel	10	60 Nov. 15-Jan. 15
Quail	15	120 Oct. 15-Feb. 15
Bear	—	— Closed season
Turkey	—	— Closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$25.		
MAINE		
Phasant*	2	12 Oct. 1-Nov. 15
Grouse	4	25 Oct. 1-Nov. 15
Deer	1	1 Oct. 21-Nov. 30†
Rabbit	4	4 Oct. 1-Feb. 28†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., big, \$20.25; Non-res., except deer, \$10.25.		
MARYLAND†		
Phasant*	2	6 Nov. 15-Dec. 31
Quail	6	6 Nov. 15-Dec. 31
Rabbit	4	4 Nov. 15-Dec. 31
Turkey	1	1 Nov. 15-Dec. 31
Deer	1	1 Dec. 5-31
LICENSE FEES: Res., Co., \$1.25; Res., State, \$5.25; Non-res., \$15.50; Snaok boat, \$5.50; Duck blind, \$5.50.		
MASSACHUSETTS		
Phasant*	2	6 Oct. 20-Nov. 20
Grouse	4	20 Oct. 20-Nov. 20
Rabbit	5	10 Oct. 20-Nov. 13
Deer	1	1 Oct. 20-Feb. 15†
Deer	1	1 Oct. 20-Nov. 13
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$15; Non-res., \$10.25.		
MICHIGAN†		
Ruffed grouse	5	25 U-Oct. 1-20
Prairie chicken	3	15 L-Oct. 15-Nov. 3
grouse	3	15 U-Oct. 1-20†
Phasant*	2	6 L-Oct. 15-26
Deer	1	1 Oct. 1-Nov. 5
LICENSE FEES: Res., small, \$2; Res., big, \$3.50; Non-res., small, \$15; Non-res., big, \$35; Non-res., bow and arrow, \$10.		
MINNESOTA†		
Phasant*	3	6 Oct. 23-Nov. 7
Quail	10	15 (poss.) Oct. 23-Nov. 7
Squirrel	7	14 (poss.) Oct. 16-Dec. 15
Rabbit	15	45 (poss.) Oct. 16-Mar. 1
Raccoon	—	— Nov. 1-Dec. 1
Deer, bow & arrow, spec. season	1	1 Oct. 16-Nov. 1
Deer	1	1 Oct. 16-Nov. 1
LICENSE FEES: Res., small, \$1; Non-res., \$25.		
MISSISSIPPI		
Turkey*	1	1 Nov. 23-24†
Quail	8	16 (poss.) Dec. 10-Jan. 31
Deer	5	10 (poss.) Dec. 20-Jan. 14
Rabbit	5	10 (poss.) Any open seasons
Squirrel	5	10 (poss.) Oct. 15-Dec. 15
LICENSE FEES: State, \$3.25; Res., Co. (except deer), \$15; Non-res., big game, \$50.25; Non-res., small game, \$25.25.		
MISSOURI		
Quail	10	10 Nov. 10-Dec. 31
Quail (a)	1	1 Dec. 8-10†
Squirrel	6	6 May 30-Oct. 31
Rabbit	—	— May 30-Oct. 31
(a) For residents only.		
MONTANA		
Hun. partridge	—	— Closed season
Phasant*	3	3 To be announced
Grouse	3	3 To be announced
Deer*	3	3 Oct. 15-Nov. 15†
Bear, grizzly	1	1 Oct. 15-Nov. 15†
black, brown	1	1 Apr. 15-Nov. 15†
Antelope	1	1 Local seasons†

STATE & SPECIES	LIMITS Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
NEBRASKA†		
Elk	1	1 Sept. 15-Dec. 31†
Moose	1	1 Local seasons†
Goat	1	1 Local seasons†
LICENSE FEES: Res., big game, \$2; Res., small game, \$25; Non-res., big game, \$100; Special moose permit, \$35; Special elk permit, \$1; Special deer permit, \$5; Special antelope permit, \$5.		
NEVADA		
Quail (valley)	10†	— Local seasons
Quail (mountain)	5†	— Local seasons
Phasant*	3	3 Local seasons
Sage hen	5†	— Local seasons
Grouse	3†	— Local seasons
Deer	1†	1 Local seasons
Rabbit	5†	— Local seasons
Hare	5†	— Local seasons
Antelope	1†	1 Aug. 25-Sept. 24†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.50; Res., deer tag, \$2.50; Non-res., \$10; Non-res., deer tag, \$25.		
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
Grouse	4	25 Oct. 1-Dec. 1
Phasant*	2	15 Nov. 15-16†
Deer	1	1 Oct. 15-Dec. 21†
Bear	5	— No closed season
Rabbit	5	— Oct. 1-Feb. 15
Hare	15 agg.	— Oct. 1-Nov. 1
Squirrel	5	— Oct. 1-Nov. 1
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.60; Non-res., \$13.25.		
NEW JERSEY		
Quail	10	— Nov. 10-Dec. 10
Phasant*	3	— Nov. 10-Dec. 10
Deer*	2	30 Nov. 10-Dec. 10
Deer*	1	1 Dec. 12-17
(bow & arrow)	1	1 Dec. 7-11
Rabbit	6	— Nov. 10-Dec. 10
Squirrel	3	— Nov. 10-Dec. 10
No Sunday shooting.		
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.15; Non-res., \$15.50.		
NEW MEXICO		
Turkey	1	1 Nov. 10-21†
Deers	1	1 To be announced
Elk	1	1 Nov. 10-21†
Bear	1†	1 Oct. 26-Nov. 2
LICENSE FEES: Res., gen., \$6; Res., big, \$45; Res., bird, \$3.50; Non-res., gen., \$60.25; Non-res., big, \$52.25; Antelope, bird, \$15.25; Elk permit, \$50.		
NEW YORK		
Grouse	—	— To be announced
Phasant*	—	— To be announced
Deer*	1	1 Oct. 25-Nov. 25†
Rabbit	5	5 Oct. 25-Nov. 25†
Squirrel	6	6 Oct. 21-Jan. 31
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Res., big game, \$2; Non-res., \$10.75; Non-res., big game, \$10.50.		
NORTH CAROLINA		
Bear	2†	2† Oct. 15-Jan. 2†
Deer	1	1† Oct. 15-Jan. 2†
Rabbit	7	7† Oct. 15-Jan. 2†
Squirrel	8†	100† Nov. 24-Jan. 31†
Turkey	1	1 Nov. 24-Jan. 31†
Grouse	2	2 Nov. 24-Jan. 31†
LICENSE FEES: Res., Co., \$1.10; Res., State, \$3.10; Non-res., \$15.75.		
NORTH DAKOTA†		
Sharp-tail grouse	3	3 (poss.) Oct. 8-17†
Phasant*	4	8 (poss.) Oct. 8-Nov. 20†
Deer	1	1 Nov. 27-29†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$25.		
OHIO†		
Squirrel	4	4 (poss.) Sept. 15-30
Rabbit	4	4 (poss.) Nov. 15-Dec. 18
Phasant*	2	2 (poss.) Nov. 15-25
Grouse	2	2 Oct. 15-25
Deer	1	1 Dec. 13-18†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.25; Non-res., \$15.25.		
OKLAHOMA		
Quail	10	50 Nov. 20-Jan. 1
Squirrel	10	— May 15-Jan. 31
Rabbit	1	— No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.25; Non-res., \$15; Alien, \$25.		
OREGON		
Valley quail	2†	6† Oct. 21-30†
Hun. partridge	3	3 Oct. 21-Nov. 9†
Grouse, sage	2	2 Oct. 1-5†
Squirrel	5	5 Sept. 1-5†
Antelope*	1	1 Oct. 1-20†
Deer*	1	1 Aug. 20-25†
Elk*	1	1 Oct. 25-Nov. 30†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3; Res., elk, \$8; Non-res., \$15; Non-res., elk, \$25.		
PENNSYLVANIA†		
Grouse	2	6 Nov. 1-6
Quail	4	12 Nov. 1-13
Hun. partridge	2	8 Nov. 1-13
Turkey	2	2 Nov. 1-13
Phasant*	2	2 Nov. 1-13
Rabbit	2	2 Nov. 1-13
Hare	2	2 Dec. 20-Jan. 1
Squirrel	6	24 Nov. 1-27
Raccoon	1	1 Nov. 1-27
Bear	1	1 Nov. 15-20
Deer	1	1 Nov. 29-Dec. 1
No Sunday Shooting.		
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$15.		
RHODE ISLAND		
Quail	6	— Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Grouse	2	2 Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Phasant*	3	3 Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Rabbit	3/5 agg.	— Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Squirrel	5	5 Nov. 1-Dec. 31
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., \$10.25; Alien, \$15.25.		

TATE & LIMITS PECIES & Daily Season

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
OUTH CAROLINA		
urkeys	2+	Nov. 23-Mar. 1+
ears	5+	Nov. 15-22+
uail	10+	Nov. 24-Feb. 15+
abbit	—	Nov. 24-Feb. 15+
quirl	12+	Oct. 15-Jan. 31+

LICENSE FEES: Res., State, \$3.10; Res., Co., \$1.10; non-res., \$15.25.
OUTH DAKOTA
 heasants 4+ 12 (poss.) Oct. 9-Nov. 22+
 rairie chicken 3 6 Sept. 25-Oct. 24+
 harptail grouse 3 6
 ears 1 1 Nov. 1-20+

Note: Big game licenses available for residents only.
 LICENSE FEES: Res., small, \$1; Non-res., small, \$20; non-res. trans. stamp, \$5; Res., deer, \$5; Res., elk, \$10; Res., antelope, \$5.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ENNESSEE		
uail	8	16 (poss.) Nov. 24-Jan. 25
rouse	3	6 (poss.) Nov. 24-Jan. 25
urkey	1	Nov. 17-30+
ear	1	Oct. 17-Nov. 30+
fld. boar	5	10 (poss.) Nov. 24-Jan. 25
abbit	2	12 (poss.) Oct. 1-Jan. 1
quirl	6	12 (poss.) Oct. 1-Jan. 1

Note: Bear, boar and deer hunting by managed hunt only. Write Div. of Fish and Game for details.
 LICENSE FEES: Res., hunting and fishing, \$2; Non-res., season, \$15; Non-res., 2 day, \$5.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
EXAS		
urkeys	—	3+
uail	—	3+
ears	—	2
ear	—	1
ntelope	—	1
abbit	—	2
quirl	—	10+

LICENSE FEES: Res., Co., \$2; Res., \$2; Non-res., alien, \$25; Big game tag, \$2.50.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
IAH		
heasants	3	6 Nov. 5, 6, 7
uail	10	20 Nov. 5, 6, 7
ntelope	1	1 Oct. 22-31
antlerless deer	—	—
abbit	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., game bird, \$3; Res., deer and game bird, \$4; Non-res., game bird, \$15; Non-res., deer, \$10.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ERMONT		
rouse	4	25 Oct. 1-31
heasants	2	4 Oct. Sats. & Weds.
ar	—	—
ears	—	—
quirl	—	—
abbit	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., \$15.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
IRGINIA		
uail	8	125 Opens Nov. 20
abbit	6	75 Nov. 20-Jan. 20+
rouse	3	15 Nov. 20-Jan. 20+
ear	—	—
heasants	4	20 Nov. 20-Jan. 20+
abbit	1	1 Nov. 20-Jan. 20+
ear	—	—
quirl	6	75 Nov. 20-Jan. 20+

LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.50; Non-res., \$15.75.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ASHINGTON		
ear	1	1 Oct. 9-30+
ear (W)	—	—
ear (E)	—	—
ick	—	—
abbit (W)	—	—
uail	—	—
uail (E)	—	—
heasants	—	—
abbit	—	—
un. & Chukar	4	8 Oct. 9-Nov. 6
Partridge	2	1 Sept. 4 Oct. 9-10
goat	1	1 Sept. 18-30+

LICENSE FEES: Res., state, \$5; Res., Co., \$2.50; non-res., big game, \$25; Non-res., small game, \$15; non-res., \$5; Non-res., elk, \$25.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
EST VIRGINIA		
heasants	2	2 Nov. 11-12+
ears	1	1 Nov. 28-Dec. 6+
quirl	4	20 Oct. 15-Nov. 19
rouse	4	15 Oct. 23-Nov. 5
urkey	1	2 Oct. 15-Nov. 5+
uail	—	—
abbit	4	24 Nov. 1-Dec. 31

No Sunday shooting.

LICENSE FEES: Res., State, \$2; Non-res., \$15.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ISCONSIN		
rouse	3	6 (poss.) Oct. 23-Nov. 5+
heasants	2	4 (poss.) Oct. 23-Nov. 5+
abbit	4	8 (poss.) Oct. 23-Nov. 5+
uail	—	—
quirl	3	6 (poss.) Oct. 23-Dec. 5+
abbit	4	1 (poss.) Oct. 23-Feb. 15+
ear	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res. (except for ear), \$25; Non-res. (including deer), \$50.

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
YOMING		
un. partridge	—	—
heasants	1	1 To be announced
ear	1	1 To be announced
oose	1	1 Local seasons
abbit	1	1 Local seasons
ear	2	2 Local seasons
heaps	1	1 Local seasons
ntelope	1	1 Local seasons

For special permits, consult local authorities.

NON-RES. LICENSE FEES: Non-res., hunting and fishing, \$100; Non-res., deer, \$20; Non-res., small game, \$10; Non-res., moose, \$75; Non-res., antelope, \$25; Non-res., bear, \$25; Non-res., bird, \$10.

OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

PECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ALASKA		
lt. sheep	—	—
ears	1+	1+ No open season
caribou	1	1 Sept. 10-Oct. 10+
caribou	1	1 Aug. 20-Sept. 30+
lt. goat	1+	1+ Aug. 20-Nov. 15+
ear, black	3+	3+ No closed season
ear, other	3+	3+ Sept. 1-June 2+
hare, rabbit	—	—
rouse, ptarmigan	10 (agg.)	10 (agg.) No closed season

LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., small game, \$10; non-res., general, \$50.

STATE & LIMITS SPECIES & Daily Season

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ALBERTA		
Duck	—	—
Goose	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Moose	—	—
Deer	—	—
Elk	—	—
Caribou	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., \$5; Non-res. big game (Canadian), \$75; Non-res. big game (alien), \$100; Non-res., spec. big game, \$25; Grizzly bear royalty, \$50; Royalty, on her bears, \$10; Non-res., birds only, \$5.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
EAST		
Bear, grizzly	1	1+ Sept. 1-June 30
Bear, other	—	—
Caribou	1	1 Sept. 1-Dec. 15+
Deer	2	2 Sept. 15-Nov. 30+
Moose	1	1 Sept. 1-Dec. 15+
Elk	1	1 Sept. 15-Nov. 30+
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Goose	—	—
Coq	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
WEST		
Bear, grizzly	1	1+ Sept. 10-June 30
Bear, other	—	—
Deer	2+	2+ No closed season
Moose	1	1 Sept. 23-Nov. 30+
Elk	1	1 Sept. 24-Oct. 2+
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Goose	—	—
Coq	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Bar-headed pigeon	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., gen., \$6; Non-res., gen., \$50; Non-res., except pheasant, \$25; Non-res., Canadian, \$15; Extra trophy fees for big game.

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
MANITOBA		
Duck	—	—
Goose	—	—
Coq	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Deer	1	1 Nov. 22-Dec. 2+
Moose	1	1 Nov. 22-Dec. 2+
Partridge	15	15 Nov. 1-Dec. 31

LICENSE FEES: Non-res., deer, \$25; Non-res., moose or deer, \$40; Non-res., bird, \$25.

NEW BRUNSWICK

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
NEW BRUNSWICK		
Grouse	6	20 Oct. 1-31+
Duck	—	—
Goose	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Woodcock	2	2 To be announced
Rabbit	2	2 To be announced
Bear	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., deer, \$3.25; Res., bird, \$1.25; Non-res., gen., \$26.

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
NEWFOUNDLAND		
Rabbit	—	—
Moose	1	1 Oct. 15-Dec. 21+
Caribou	1	1 Sept. 1-30 AND Nov. 1-Dec. 31

LICENSE FEES: Non-res., small game, \$5; Non-res., big game, \$25.

NOVA SCOTIA

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
NOVA SCOTIA		
Duck	—	—
Goose	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Woodcock	—	—
Deer	2	2 To be announced
Ruffed Grouse	3	3 To be announced
Deer	2	2 To be announced
Bear	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Res., big, \$3; Non-res., small, \$15; Non-res., deer and bear, \$25; Non-res., woodcock & Wilson's Snipe, \$25.

ONTARIO

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
ONTARIO		
Duck	—	—
Goose	—	—
Wilson's snipe	—	—
Woodcock	—	—
Deer	1	1 To be announced
Bear	—	—
Rabbit	6+	6+ To be announced

LICENSE FEES: Res., gen., \$1; Res., deer, \$4; Non-res., game, \$75; Non-res., bear & small game, \$15.50; Non-res., deer & sm. game, \$25.75; Non-res., special bear, \$25.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		
Hun. partridge	8	8 Oct. 1-31
Rabbit	4	4 Oct. 15-31

LICENSE FEES: Non-res., \$10.

QUEBEC

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
QUEBEC		
Grouse	5	15 To be announced
Partridge	5	5 To be announced
Duck	7	7 To be announced
Goose	5	5 To be announced
Wilson's snipe	8	8 To be announced
Woodcock	8	8 To be announced
Deer	1	1 Local seasons
Bear	—	—
Rabbit	—	—

LICENSE FEES: Non-res., \$100; Non-res., club members, lessso, \$40; Non-res., birds and hare, \$15.50.

SASKATCHEWAN

STATE & SPECIES	Daily Season	OPEN SEASON
SASKATCHEWAN		
Duck	—	—
Goose	—	—
Wilson's snipe	2	2 To be announced
Prairie chicken	5	5 To be announced
Pheasant	5	5 Oct. 1-14+
Deer	1	1 Nov. 18-Dec. 11+
Caribou	2	2 Nov. 11-Jan. 31
Antelope	4	4 Oct. 28-Nov. 13+

LICENSE FEES: Res., game bird, \$2; Non-res., alien game bird, \$25; Res., pheasant, \$1; Non-res., pheasant, \$5; Res., antelope, \$5; Res., big game, \$5; Non-res., Canadian big game, \$25; Non-res., alien big game, \$40.



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DOUBLE CROSS

"That bird pitched down over the top of that spruce," the Hunter said. "Don't tell me you stood there and didn't see him."



Illustrated
Harold E. Blittersdorf

N GROUSE



Scoring a clean double on pa'tridges is a sweet triumph.
 but it's likely to taste a bit sour if you can't prove it

By HAROLD F. BLAISDELL

It was October. There were plenty of grouse in the covers but I had been missing shots with the regularity of a junk in a pool game. The Old Hunter accounted for one bird at a cost of only one shell, and he was rubbing it plenty. I was rapidly becoming un-appy.

The Old Hunter's twelve bore boomed in the thornapple cover at my feet. I had just grudgingly concluded that he had bagged his second bird when a brown bolt shot down out of nowhere and thudded to earth practically at my feet. I might continue to miss birds but I am not one to miss a chance for revenge, so I grabbed the gently descended grouse and stuffed it into my game pocket with all possible haste.

"Didja get him?" I hollered, trying to sound sincere.

"You heard me shoot, didn't you?" growled the Old Hunter. "Of course I got him!"

I could hear the Old Hunter thrash through the thick cover in my direction and he soon joined me.

"Where is it?" he wanted to know.

"Where's what?"

"That pa'tridge."

"What kind of talk is that?" I asked indignantly. "You said you got him."

"That bird was hit hard and I marked where he pitched down right over the top of that there spruce," said the Old Hunter, pointing dramatically with an arm as long as a squirrel rifle. "Don't tell me you stood right here and didn't get him."

"If I'd seen him would I have been yellin' to ask if you got him?" I asked, with what I hoped would pass for ass-bound logic.

The Old Hunter eyed me for long

seconds and I tried to keep from squirming.

"Yes, I can see how you wouldn't," he said finally. "I have only to remember that buck I drove by your stand last fall without drawing a shot from you, and then there was that big fox that we tried for all last winter in Fuller's Swamp. Finally figured out a sure crossing, gave you the chance to stand there, and then when the cuss dang near ran up your gun barrel you claimed he didn't come in sight."

"That buck of yours was bald-headed," I protested. "And those dogs were running wide of the track when they came by and you saw them. And besides, there was no snow and you couldn't prove a darned thing and if you could have I . . ."

"Don't get me riled," he replied. "There's a bird down that needs finding, so start looking. Not that I expect you to see him but you may stumble over him for he ain't far from where you're standing."

The unconscious exactness of his last remark gave me a jolt, but the old man was already poking around in the brush and didn't notice. I joined him in his search, trying to appear equally intent on finding the lost bird although I could feel its warmth through the game pocket of my hunting jacket.

He had to give up finally, but he was far from satisfied.

"Confounded funny," he muttered, his eyes still searching the ground. "I know doggoned well that bird came down and he came down right here."

"You said that before," I commented. "Probably you missed him clean and then just thought you saw him drop. Seems to me I've heard tell that when people get to be your age their eyes and

ears start playing tricks on them and they start to imagine they see and hear all kinds of things. Maybe that explains a lot of things that have. . . ."

I had to stop and grin with the Old Hunter. He could count the whiskers on a running fox and his mind is as sharp as a porcupine quill—and he knows it.

"Well, anyway, are we going to hang around here the rest of the day moaning or are we going to do some more hunting?" I asked.

"I still think something is screwy," he muttered, but he followed along after me.

We kicked up more birds, but most of them showed the good sense to flush out of range of the Old Hunter's deadly double barrel and where they were subject only to the negligible hazard of my wildly flung shots. The Old Hunter complained loudly and bitterly as I burned shot after shot without results but in spite of the unequal distribution of opportunities he had added two grouse to his bag by the time we began to think of swinging back toward the car.

I had just whanged both barrels without results at a bird flying straight away in the open when we stopped for a breather.

"I wouldn't complain if you could connect once in a while," said the Old Hunter. "But why a butter-fingers like you who couldn't hit a roosting chicken has to get all the shots is beyond me."

"Anybody with an ounce of human understanding could see that I was having an off day and needed moral support, but what do I get out of you? Nothing but a steady harping about. . . ."

(Continued on page 23)



The Fantastic Salton Sea

*This big inland ocean may some day become
an equally fantastic sport fishing paradise*

By CHARLES NIEHUIS

THEY SAY that on a still, clear day when the surface of California's Salton Sea is quiet, you can look down from a plane through the water and see a railroad engine complete with coal car still sitting there on an old narrow gauge railway! The train is covered with barnacles now and schools of mullet swim over and through the cab. Lately, within the last year, anchovettas — little sardines, newcomers to the Sea from the famous fishing waters off the West Coast of Mexico — swarm by the stack. And occasionally a "tarpon" slashes up out of the shadow of the boiler at the passing sardines.

Fantastic? Sure. But, the whole story of the Salton Sea is fantastic anyway.

Before the Colorado River went on a rampage in 1905 the area was known as the Salton Sink, nothing but a dry basin 250 feet below sea level. There were some salt mines in the bottom of it. A narrow gauge railway served

them, carrying out salt and bringing in fresh water and supplies from some fifty miles away.

Then came a day after heavy rains when millions of gallons of water began spilling over the banks of the flooding Colorado River and cascading through the desert into the Salton Sink. It came so fast it caught the engineer of the little narrow gauge railway train with a low head of steam. So he just let her sit, and executed that military maneuver known as "getting the hell out of there." The waters covered the train, so it must be there yet and maybe it really can be seen from the air on a clear still day.

For three years — '05, '06, '07 — the Colorado continued to flood, spilling its surplus into the Sink, and the Sink became a Sea. Then for several years the water receded under the hot, thirsty desert sun. Everyone naturally expected it would dry up completely. But with the development of the irrigation sys-

tem for the Imperial Valley came the problem of what to do with the waste irrigation water. The problem practically solved itself. The waste ditch became rivers running into the Salton Sea, now covering an area 45 miles long by 20 miles wide. One of the was soon called New river. The other, doubtless named by some transplant Texan, became the Alamo.

The waste water filled the Sea and kept the level constant. The river mouths provided living places for mullet which had apparently entered the Salton Sink with the Colorado River waters. This peculiar fish can live in salt, fresh or brackish water, and unlike most fish it goes to salt water to spawn.

The Salton Sea mullet are now landlocked for the Sea has no outlet to the ocean. But the mullet don't seem to mind; they propagate anyway, although California fisheries biologists still don't know how.

The mullet are so abundant in the Salton Sea that commercial fishing for them is fast becoming a major industry. Just to give you an idea of how extensive it is, one fishing boat hauled in seven tons in one day's fishing. The mullet are taken to the West Coast canneries and are showing up in the markets there. It resembles tuna in appearance and flavor.

And it will take a fly, even a dry fly, as William A. Dill of the California Division of Fish and Game and a friend discovered one day when they tried it out to see what would happen. The mullet took little No. 14 dries in a variety of patterns, and proved as fussy as trout in refusing to rise unless very fine leader tippets were used. Better still, they averaged around five pounds apiece, and fought well enough to satisfy any sport fisherman.

Naturally, fishermen are wondering now why there aren't other fish to catch in the Sea. If mullet can live, why not something else? A more desirable game fish, perhaps!

A number of years ago some adventurous fellow, no doubt the kind who would drop a baited hook into a filthy bathtub in the hope of getting a bite, hooked onto a "ten-pounder," the popular name for what the fisheries biologists call *Elops affinis*. It looked like a tarpon to the first fisherman. He called it that. And he came pretty close, for it is a blood relative of the tarpon from the Philippine Islands and waters of the South Pacific.

Like the mullet, the ten-pounder is supposed to have entered the Salton Sea during the Colorado River flood. In any event, it is welcome there, for it rates as a game fish, being both a spectacular fighter and, unlike the Atlantic tarpon, a tasty dish on the table.

But, as in any mystery body of water—and especially salt water—there is no end to speculation as to just what else there may be in the Salton Sea in the form of fish.

Every once in a while something happens to make the natives around the sea wonder if possibly they may have been passing up a good bet. For example, C. Roy Hunter, of Desert Beach on the north end of the Salton Sea, and a companion were sitting looking out over the water one evening. Suddenly a fish broke water several yards off shore. It leaped once, and then again. It was a big one, estimated by these reliable observers to be five feet long! It's anybody's guess what it could be.

In 1929 and again in 1930 attempts were made to introduce striped bass to the Salton Sea. According to the best local information the plantings were made in shallow water, during the heat of the day. Those fish that survived the extreme temperature, which was up around a rosy 90 degrees that

(Continued on page 34)



California warden L. Rossier with a pair of "ten-pounders" taken from the Salton Sea (Photo by Calif. Div. Fish & Game)



The silver mullet of the Salton Sea run big, fight hard, can be caught with flies. This 12-pounder came from Desert Beach



Once nothing but a sun-baked desert, the Salton Sink is now a sea, and sport fishing boats are out already looking for known and unknown game fish (Desert Beach photo)



Gent and Squirt. A dog adds a lot to a squirrel hunt

Graytails in the Hazelnuts

Been squirrel hunting lately?

Forgotten how much fun it is?

By CARLOS VINSON

HOLD IT!" Gent said. "I thought I heard old Squirt bark."

I'd been telling him in a half-whisper that the squirrels must have all moved to some other woods. The hickory cuttings around us were old with no nuts left on the trees.

But another yelp from Squirt proved Gent was right. It seemed to come from the pin oak trees deeper in the woods. Old Squirt hadn't quite made up his mind. He was probably circling the tree to see if the squirrel had crossed into other trees and come to the ground again. Good squirrel dogs usually follow this pattern. Sometimes they'll let out a couple of preliminary yelps, sometimes not. Silence prevailed as we listened intently. If you've ever hunted squirrels with a good dog, you know what a thrill those listening moments are.

Three or four minutes passed before we heard the dog again. This time it was a steady tree bark, and we made tracks

fast, because we knew the squirrel wouldn't stay put very long.

I beat Gent to the tree and had the squirrel located when he got there.

"Take him," I told Gent, who carried a .22 for the still shots. I used a scattergun for the runners.

Squirt was in a frenzy, perhaps a bit over-eager on the first graytail of this crisp fall morning, and his frantic yelping started the squirrel running before Gent could get lined up on him. That made him my meat and I banged away before he could reach the end of a limb and jump into another tree.

Squirt wooled the graytail after it crashed to the ground but he didn't offer to chew it. After I got through petting Squirt I fed him some fresh squirrel entrails. Gent claims that a dog hunts better if you feed him the entrails from the first squirrel of the day.

As we walked deeper into the woods, we began to see fresh cuttings to show

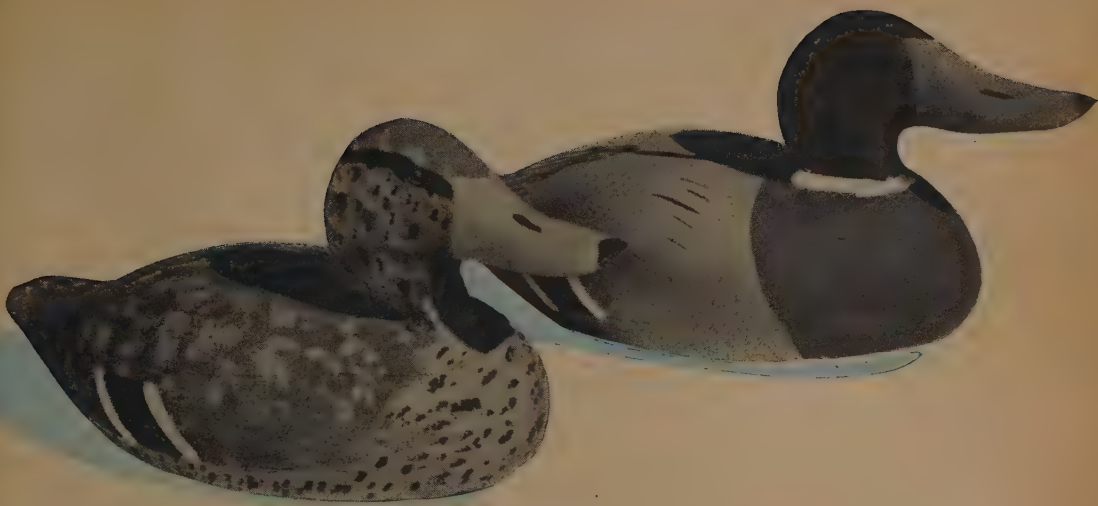
where squirrels had been feeding. acorns. In fact, the stomach of the one I had just killed contained nothing else. Then we heard a faint yelp from old Squirt.

"He's struck another one," Gent muttered, cupping his ear, "but he doesn't sound very sure of it."

After what seemed like a quarter of an hour (probably less than a minute) Squirt let out another yelp and this one sounded more confident. Another brief pause and then the dog settled down, tree barking in earnest.

Old Squirt was singing a beautiful tree song by the time we got to him. He was leaping against the trunk of a large oak, trying his best to climb it. Gent pointed toward the top. There, flattened on a limb, lay an old fox squirrel and two half-grown young ones. Nearby we saw a den tree with a fresh leaf nest in it. Fox squirrels are rather rare in the south.

(Continued on page 26)



How to Make Your Own DECOYS

*You'll get a lot of satisfaction
from shooting ducks over decoys you've built yourself.
Here's how to make them*

By DON BURKHART

PHOTO AND DRAWINGS
BY THE AUTHOR

WITH the hunting season still far off, now is the time to put in some spare hours in the workshop making your own decoys for next fall's shooting—and for many other falls still to come. These blocks will not only bring compliments from your hunting friends, but will positively give you more shots over your favorite lake or slough.

First, lay out paper templates to scale as shown in Figures 1 to 4 on the following pages, and then cut wood layers to match the templates. You can keep costs down by using scrap lumber, $\frac{1}{2}$ - or $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch thick (box ends from the neighborhood grocery will serve very satisfactorily, if you can get them).

Hollow out sections 2 and 3 to decrease the weight of the finished decoy, and then bond all four sections together with a waterproof glue. Clamp the glued sections in a vise overnight for extra strength and water-tightness.

Now cut the body to approximate shape and rasp and sandpaper this rough form smooth for the finished product. It

Fig. 1—template of top section, marked out in one-inch squares

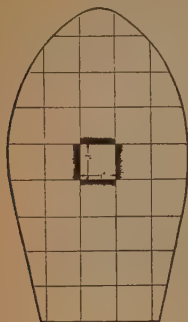


Fig. 2—template of second section with area cut out to save weight

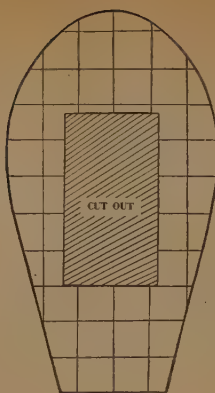


Fig. 3—template of third section, showing area to be cut out

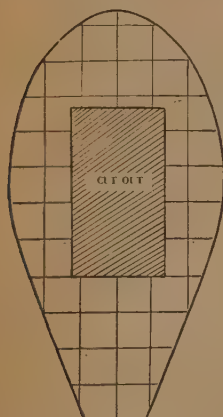
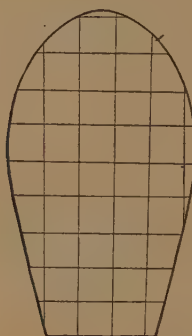


Fig. 4—template of bottom section



pays to work slowly here, for deep gouges will show up badly after the decoy is finished.

The head is made next in the same general manner as the body. Lay out the paper templates (Figure 6) on the wood you intend using (same thickness as body sections) and then cut it out. You can do this work while the body sections are being pressed in a vise. Glue the two head sections together and rasp and sandpaper the overall form smooth at this time. Two thin pieces can be glued together and worked into shape much easier than one thick block can be cut down. Drill holes $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch deep to set in the eyes.

After you have shaped the body and head, drill a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch diameter hole 2 inches deep into the head from the base of the neck (see Figure 6) and a similar-sized hole into the body through sections 1, 2 and 3 (see Figure 5). Place glue on a dowel pin $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch in diameter and 4 inches long and insert the pin in these holes. You will want the dowel pin to fit tightly into the head and body to keep the head firm and to add strength to the neck of the decoy.

Put the decoy in a tub of water now and see how it floats. If the balance is correct, insert a $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch lead sheeting strip $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wide by 4 inches long in the bottom so that it comes flush with the bottom of the decoy. If the unweighted decoy rides off balance in the water, correct it by counter balancing the weight and attach it in place with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wood

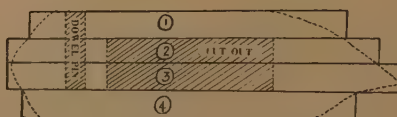


Fig. 5—side view of rough sections after they have been glued together

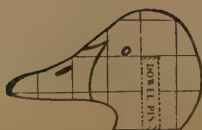


Fig. 6—template of head section; make two and glue firmly together

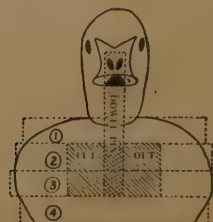


Fig. 7—front view of decoy with head doweled into position

screws. Then set a 1/4-inch screw eye into the forepart of the bottom of the body or the anchor line. Heavy cord or cod line is best, because you can wind it around the head and thus keep it from getting snarled.

Before starting to paint the decoys, fill all cracks with plastic wood filler to prevent leakage, and give the decoy two thin coats of shellac or varnish to close the pores.

A base coat of dark brown flat paint will protect the wood and hide the scars if your outside paint chips off due to the knocking around decoys usually take. Paint the outside colors as shown in Figures 8 and 9, remembering to use only flat paint, which gives a dull finish when dry.

You can buy glass eyes from your local sporting goods store or taxidermists' supply house. Remember that mallards have brown eyes, scaups or bluebills have yellow eyes, and redheads, red eyes.

The anchor shown in the drawings (see Figure 10) has proved best because you can slip it over the head of the decoy and twist it around the neck to take up slack in the line. Make the anchor weight by pouring lead into a wood or plaster mold as shown in Figure 10. You can make a weight as large as you wish in this manner.

A flock of these decoys will add a lot of real pleasure to your future duck hunting trips. And you'll find that pride in your own work over-shadows that of mass-production blocks of wood.

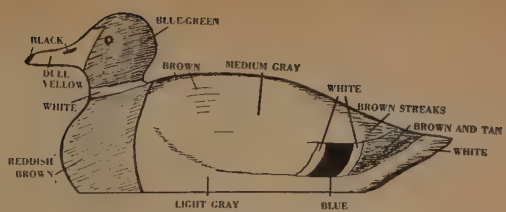


Fig. 8—side view of mallard drake showing general color scheme

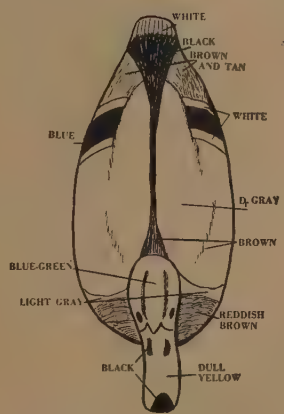


Fig. 9—top view showing color scheme for mallard drake decoy

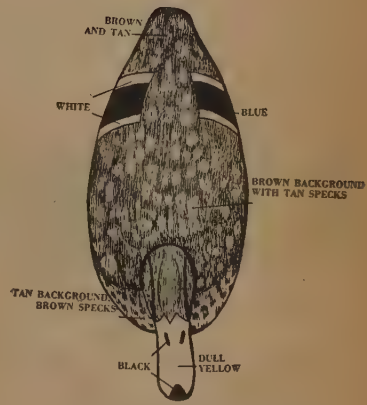


Fig. 10—top view showing color scheme for hen decoy

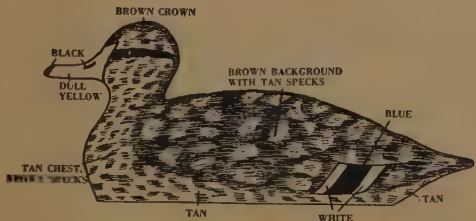
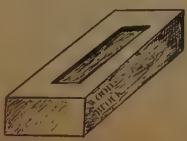


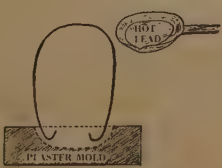
Fig. 11—side view of mallard duck with general color notes



Gouge out section from wood block to pour the keel weight



Bend wire to fit over head of decoy



Pour hot lead in plaster mold as large as needed



Finished decoy anchor weight looks like this



Mr. Z. discovers that the farmer's big trout are his small ones

Yi! A Whopper!

Yessir, it's a noble ten-incher. Or, o

the other hand, maybe it

By ED ZERN

a modest little brown trout of eight pound

THE WORD "big" as applied to a fish, doesn't mean much. Not only is a "big" muskellunge a puny thing compared to a "small" mako shark, but an individual fish that passes for a regular ol' sockdolager in one section of the country may be scorned as small fry in some other neck of the woods.

Thus, I once went poking around the back roads of Wayne County, Pennsylvania, hoping to discover some little-known and little-fished trout stream or pond, and while engaged in this fool's errand, I found a farmer trying to herd his cows back into the field they had left to seek greener pastures. (Even cows go on fool's errands.) I stopped my car and helped the farmer shoo his Guernseys through the break in the fence, and then helped him restore the fence. He was grateful for the assist, and having noticed my fly rod sticking out through the rear window, he asked how was fishing. Not too good, I said, I'm just casing the joint, so to speak.

"Well," he said, "you seem like a right nice feller. If you'll promise not

to tell nobody else, I'll tell you where you can find some real good native trout, not far from here. Big ones!"

"How big?" I said, perking up my ears, but mindful that big brook trout are a rarity in Pennsylvania.

"Don't you worry," the farmer said. "They're big enough—but you got to promise to keep it mum." So I promised, and the farmer told me how to get to a beaver dam about five miles away, and hinted that he'd look kindly on a few good eatin' trout for his breakfast, and I took off as directed.

I found the beaver dam, after walking up a small brook for half a mile, and it was as well secluded as any wilderness pond could be. I lay down beside it and watched the dark but clear water for a while, and although I saw plenty of trout, none was much over ten inches long. I tied on a small wet fly and took several dozen trout in the next two hours, keeping six ten- and eleven-inchers for the farmer.

When I brought the brookies back to him at the farmhouse, I thanked him

again for the directions, and said I was sorry I hadn't been able to get any of the big ones. He looked at me suspiciously.

"What do you mean?" he said. "Them's the big ones!" And to his accustomed to small streams full of six- and seven-inch brook trout, they were big.

On the other hand, I drove up later that year to a section of New York State, which, I had heard, sheltered a number of "big" brown trout. I had, in addition to some third-hand hearsay, an introduction to a doctor who was reputed to know the local fishing as well as anyone, and I went to see him. He asked me what sort of fish I had in mind.

"I'm looking for big brown trout," I said.

"What tackle are you using?" he said.

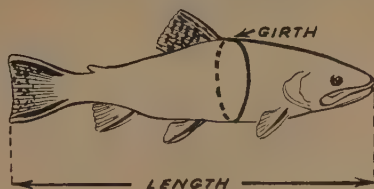
"Fly rod," I said, "and for really big browns, I'll fish a bucktail."

"You won't get the big browns on a bucktail," the doctor said.

(Continued on page 35)

OUTDOORS Big Fish Contest

RULES AND PRIZES



How to measure fish for length and girth

CONTEST RULES:

1. Open to legally caught fresh and salt water game fish taken with rod, reel and line from waters available to the general public.
2. All fish must be hooked and played directly by the entrant, with assistance permitted only in landing, gaffing or netting.
3. Each fish entered will be scored against the present all-tackle record for that species, records being those recognized by the OUTDOORS Rules and Entry Committee. Example: The smallmouth bass record is 14 lb. A 7-lb. smallmouth would therefore weigh 50% of the record (7 divided by 14) and score 50,000 points. Or: The striped bass record is 73 lbs. A 50-lb. striper would weigh 68.493% of the record (50 divided by 73) and its score in the contest would be 68,493 points. The ten game fish scoring the highest number of points will win in each of the 50 state or area Divisions.
4. In case of exact ties, duplicate prizes will be awarded.
5. If possible, send close-up photo of fish with each entry, EXCEPT that entry of smallmouth bass, walleyed pike, pickerel, steelhead trout, channel bass, albacore, mako shark, Allison tuna and spotted weakfish MUST include a close-up photo of the fish in which the species is clearly recognizable.
6. Each fish must be entered in the Division for the state, province or area where caught, regardless of where the entrant lives. There are 50 Divisions: One for each of the 48 states (District of Columbia included with Maryland); one for Canada; one for all United States possessions and territories, Mexico, Cuba, Bahamas and Bermuda.
7. No contestant may win more than one regular prize in each Division. However, he may also win a Special Grand Award for breaking a record, or a Sockdolager Club

measuring AND notarization by a notary public.

12. This contest is not open to employees of OUTDOORS Magazine or their families.

13. The Special Junior Division is open only to entrants who had not reached their 16th birthdays on date of catch. Affidavit must give entrant's birthdate and one of the two witnesses to the weighing and measuring must be a parent or guardian of the entrant and so designated on the entry form.

PRIZES:

The OUTDOORS Big Fish Contest offers 550 prizes in merchandise with a total retail value of \$6,500, to be selected by winners from fishing tackle and equipment advertised in any of the previous 12 issues of OUTDOORS Magazine. Ten prizes totaling \$120 are offered in each of the 50 Divisions, PLUS 50 prizes of \$10 each for juniors, one junior prize in each Division.

First prize in each Division, \$50; second prize, \$25; third prize, \$10; 4th through 10th prizes, \$5 each; all prizes in merchandise at retail value.

Special Awards: To any contestant entering a fish larger than the present all-tackle record recognized by the OUTDOORS Rules and Entry Committee, and officially accepted as a new all-tackle record for that species, the OUTDOORS Big Fish Contest offers a Special Grand Award of a new Nash Airflyte four-door sedan with built-in twin beds, PLUS a full set of Seiberling tires and tubes, delivered right to the winner's door.

Sockdolager Club: All contestants entering fish which score 50 points or more will be accepted as members of the OUTDOORS Sockdolager Club, and will receive a certificate of membership and handsome metal Sockdolager Club button suitable for wearing on the lapel or hatband.

ENTRY AND AFFIDAVIT FORM

Fill out completely (or copy and fill out) and mail to: Big Fish Contest, OUTDOORS Magazine, 136 Federal St., Boston 10, Mass.

Species of fish* _____ Wt. _____ lbs. _____ oz. Length _____ inches. Girth _____ inches

Date caught _____ Where caught _____ State _____

If guest of resort or camp, its name and address _____

Manufacturer and type of: Rod _____ Reel _____ Line _____

Bait used or, if artificial lure, manufacturer and type _____

I hereby certify that I personally caught the above-described fish in full accordance with the rules governing the OUTDOORS

Big Fish Contest (Signature) _____ BIRTHDATE (Juniors only) _____

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Complete address (please PRINT) _____

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 1949. Notary's signature _____ (SEAL)

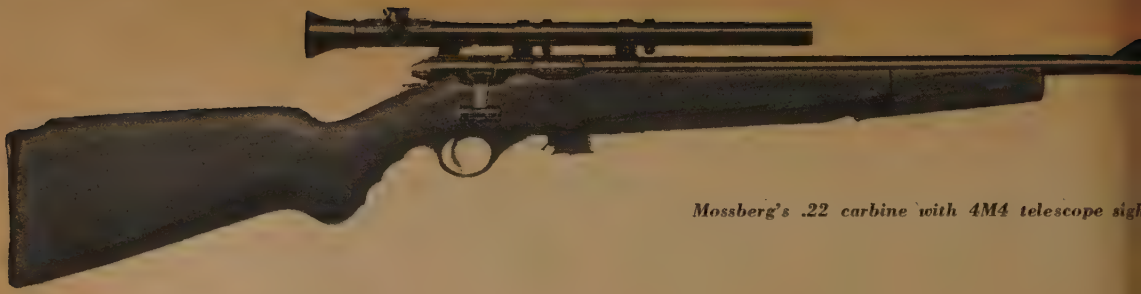
We, the undersigned, personally witnessed the weighing and measuring of the above-described fish and do hereby affirm that the weight and measurements given are correct:

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*See Rule 5 governing entry of smallmouth bass, walleyed pike, pickerel, steelhead trout, channel bass, albacore, mako shark, Allison tuna and spotted weakfish



Mossberg's .22 carbine with 4M4 telescope sight

MOSSBERG'S MODEL 142

By COL. H. P. SHELDON, SHOOTING EDITOR

Here's a compact, rugged .22 rifle for target and game at a price you can afford

ABOUT a year ago I wrote with considerable enthusiasm about the Mossberg Model 152, a semi-automatic 7-shot carbine for the .22 long rifle cartridge. Throughout the intervening months my enthusiasm for this 5-pound rifle has increased. Except for the rare occasions when I put on a necktie and go forth to lend charm and wit to some otherwise dull function, the little carbine usually goes with me. It is no more of a burden than a walking stick, yet it is a handy and very efficient little rifle. For casual shooting and for small game at ranges up to 100 yards it will do fully as well as a heavier rifle. At the present time I have fired over 10,000 rounds from it with not more than a dozen malfunctions that could be properly charged to the rifle. That, in my experience, is a very good record for any semi-automatic .22 especially if the action is not cleaned at 500-shot intervals.

The Mossberg Company has brought out another carbine type .22 very similar to the semi-automatic except that it is a bolt action 7-shot repeater. This one is the Model 142. It will handle .22 shorts as well as the long rifle cartridges. Like its companion it weighs only 5 pounds with its 18-inch barrel. It has the same folding extension grip which is an exclusive Mossberg feature, but which I have not found to be of particular advantage as an aid to accuracy, although it does contribute something to the general appearance of the rifle.

Both rifles have a strong resemblance to the famous .30 caliber carbine, including the web sling strap mounted on the side of the butt and fore end. It can be used either for carrying the rifle or to support it while aiming.

The iron sights regularly furnished consist of an adjustable receiver peep and a post front sight with side guards. Both sights are very well made and I believe that for any rifleman whose vision has lost some of the sharpness of youth they will give better definition than he has learned to expect from other iron sights. The Mossberg 4M4 'scope sight can be mounted simply by turning out the peep sight and slipping the mounts into a groove cut into the receiver. The 142 has an adjustable trigger pull which is very clean and sharp. The stock is of walnut with the Monte Carlo comb. The price is \$21.95 east of the Rockies—\$22.95 on the other side of the hill.

ALL IN all, it is a handsome little rifle although no attempt has been made to "doll it up." Obviously the manufacturer's main purpose was to direct his resources toward accuracy, reliability, safety, and general usefulness, and to provide these at very low cost. And low it is, considering the exceptional quality of the rifle.

A rifle at any price isn't worth a tinker's dam unless it has accuracy. Both these carbines—the 152 semi-automatic and the new 142 bolt-action

—are accurate to a degree that would surprise anyone who takes a dim view of 18-inch rifle barrels. These rifles in my hands when fired from a sandbag rest will shoot groups no larger in size than is to be expected from a good hunting rifle. This accuracy is due in part to the excellent rifling job and also to the fact that the barrels have plenty of metal in them, enough of to give good thickness and the rigidity which cuts down vibration. Naturally it is impossible to hold a 5-pound carbine as steadily upon the point of aim as it to hold an 8-pound rifle. For the same reason a 10-pound rifle is steadier than one of 8 pounds, but the greater weight of the barrel has, in a practical way, less effect in increasing the intrinsic accuracy of the barrel itself than it has in reducing the rifleman's errors of aim. Which means, insofar as these two carbines are concerned, that either one will shoot better than most of us can hold it.

The carbine is a distinct type weapon, and its usefulness as a sporting arm has never been fully appreciated in this country principally because we have been brought up on the tradition of heavy handguns and long rifles. The carbine had its origin as a military weapon to be used by mounted troops on occasions when they had to fight on foot. Loaded with the black powder charges and heavy balls and bullets used in the regulation muskets and rifles, the carbine kicked hard at

sit badly and thus acquired a poor reputation which it has never completely lost. This is unfortunate for a properly designed, well-made carbine with an 18-, 20-, or 22-inch barrel of good weight and a well-proportioned stock and fore end is a much better purpose arm than either the rifle or the pistol.

European sportsmen and rifle makers realized the possibilities of the carbine long before it was taken up in this country. With us the carbine was nothing more than a makeshift, really a sawed-off rifle with a thin sawed-off stock and sometimes, as a special treat, a thin pistol-size barrel. It would be hard to design a meaner, more intractable firearm. But in Europe they had genuine carbines of which the 6.5 Mannlicher made a record wherever it is the most famous. The handsome little Mannlicher made a record wherever it went. Selous and others shot African big game, including elephant, with it, though it is not to be recommended as an elephant rifle, and I have never known anyone of experience who has used this carbine on American game who didn't speak of it with affection and respect.

Within the past two or three years, stimulated perhaps by the success of the .30 caliber Government Carbine, the sporting carbine is receiving the attention it deserves from manufacturers and sportsmen. We already have several excellent carbines, including the two Mossbergs, for the .22 rim fire cartridges and others for the more powerful center fire ammunition are on the market, or will be soon.

Among the rifled arms, the carbine has its recognized place between the pistol or revolver and the full-sized rifle. It is not an all purpose rifled arm, however, and should not be so regarded. It has far greater power and accuracy than the pistol, but it has



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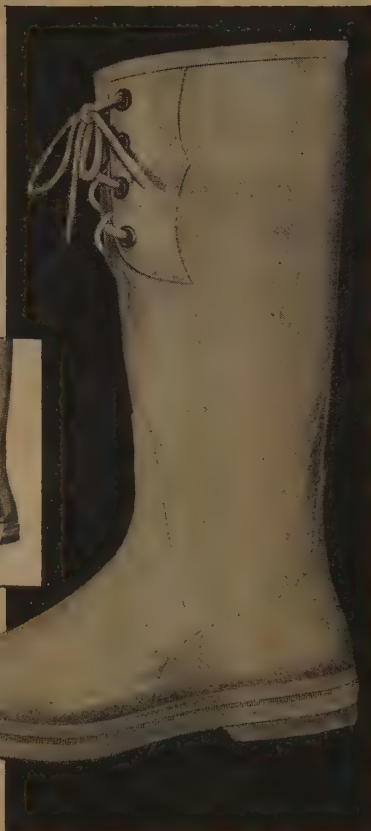
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greater weight and size. Its maximum performance approaches but does not equal the maximum performance of the rifle, yet the carbine, as it is not being made by American manufacturers, is quite likely to be the most useful of all our rifled sporting arms. There are many occasions when its greater power and accuracy will more than compensate for its greater weight and bulk over the pistol and many others when its lesser weight and bulk will compensate for the greater power and accuracy of the heavy full size rifle.

Rifleman's Book

THE *Ideal Hand Book* is in many ways a unique publication. It has its origin 35 years ago in the days when black powder was still in common use in rifles, shotguns, pistols and revolvers and every gunner who had progressed beyond the rule-of-three stage of marksmanship loaded the bulk of his ammunition as a matter of course. When a man bought a new rifle he also bought a set of loading tools for the cartridges. The tools were usually made by the Ideal Company which also published the *Handbook*. The *Handbook* then as now gave the handloader all the information he needed to enable him to prepare his own ammunition which was often more satisfactory than that which he bought at his local store. Then, as now, it was and is an extremely valuable and useful book for any shooter even though he did not handload.

In that Utopian era the arms and ammunition manufacturers took it for granted that the shooter would load most of this ammunition by hand and out of the goodness of their hearts supplied free of charge with each box of cartridges information concerning primers and other data useful to the reloader. The arms and ammunition makers are undoubtedly as goodhearted as ever they were in black powder days, but the development of smokeless powder put an end to the old freemasonry.

Black powder was and still is the same stuff. It was used in heavy ordnance and in the tiny .22 caliber cartridges. The only difference between the cannon powder and the pistol powder was in the size of the grain—big grain for big guns, small grain for small guns. A rifleman couldn't get enough black powder into his cartridge case to burst his barrel if he used bullet of standard weight. Smokeless powder is produced in many forms each of which has its individual characteristics. Some of them are fast burning, others are slow, some are high pressure compounds, others are medium or low. Each is designed for a special use. A very small charge of a certain

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pe. when loaded into a case for which it is not adapted, behind a bullet for which it is not suited, may smash a fine rifle. In fact the only quality which smokeless powders possess in common is that of being relatively smokeless.

It was for these reasons that the ammunition manufacturers gave up the practice of giving out instructions on reloading to the customers who bought their cartridges. They could, and do, guarantee that their smokeless powder ammunition has been loaded with reasonable care and is safe for use in arms to which it is adapted. That is as far as they can be expected to go in order to protect themselves and their customers from damage.

The empty cartridge cases can be reloaded, however, with safety, economy, and complete satisfaction by any intelligent person who will take the small trouble to devote an hour or two to studying the contents of the faithful *Old Ideal Hand Book*, Number 36. It is published by the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation, Middlefield, Conn. and sells at 50 cents a copy.

For more than 35 years the *Hand Book* has been the infallible guide and guardian angel of the handloaders of this and other countries. It has never gone stale in all these years, nor failed to provide the shooter with up-to-date information upon cartridges and cartridge components including data upon hundreds of tested loadings for rifles old and new. For example, the old nearly obsolete .45-90 Winchester cartridge has ten recommended loadings listed, ranging from a 405-grain bullet at 1950 f.p.s., to a 300-grain slug at 1494 f.p.s. The .30-'06 Government cartridge, undoubtedly the most popular and useful of modern large bore cartridges has a list of no less than 112 recommended loads in the *Hand Book*.

The *Hand Book* has 150 pages divided into four principal parts: *How to Reload a Cartridge*, *Cartridge Components*, *Reloading Shotgun Cartridges*, and *Tables of Charges for Rifles and Pistols*.

No matter what you have in the way of a rifle or pistol, the chances are that the *Ideal Hand Book* has complete information concerning its cartridge and how to load it.

Anyone who is fortunate enough or has been sufficiently foresighted to preserve the 35 previous issues of the *Hand Book* has a remarkably complete detailed record of the development of the modern cartridge during the most significant years in the history of small arms.

At the time of his death in 1948, J. Bushnell Smith was generally and rightly regarded as the leading authority on handloading. His advice to all

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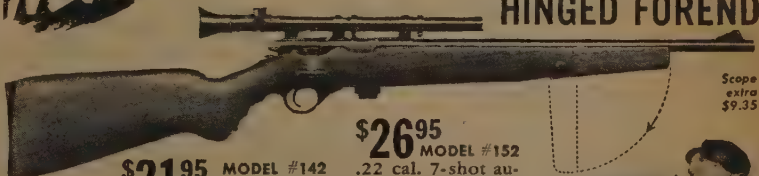
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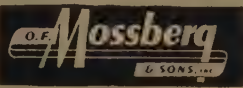


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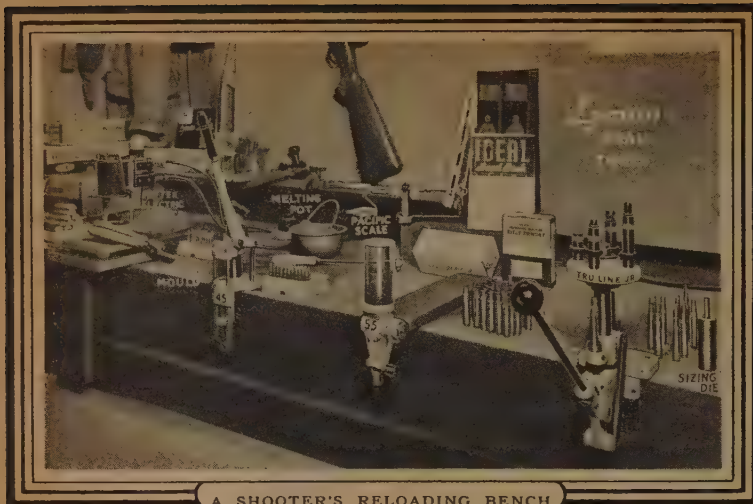
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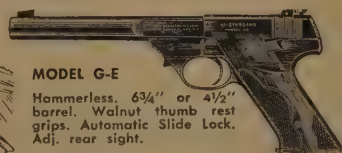
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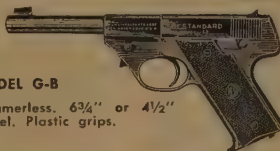
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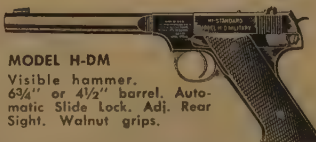
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who took up handloading was always the same. "First, get a copy of the *Ideal Hand Book*."

To many of us the *Hand Book* is an old and well loved friend, a companion and mentor from boyhood onward. We welcome its appearance each year as we welcome the first signs of spring, and in it we find assurance that America hasn't gone completely to hell after all.

Winchester's Model 43

A REMARKABLE number of riflemen have been complaining for years that American manufacturers of sporting rifles have generally failed to give enough attention to the designing and production of rifles made to meet the special requirements of our small center-fire cartridges such as the Hornet, the .25-20 and the old reliable .32-20 Winchester. It has been pointed out that these and similar cartridges belong to an interesting and very useful group for American shooting, both in the field and on the target range.

They occupy a place between the .22 long rifle and the larger center-fires like the .220 Swift, the .250-3000 and the .257 Roberts. The .22 long rifle lacks the necessary power; the others have too much of it to suit the moderate needs of the small game and medium range "varmint" rifle. The jam seems to have broken at last. A month or two ago the Savage Company brought out its Model 322 Hornet which was lately reported in this department. At about the same time the Winchester Company announced its new Model 43, a bolt action rifle designed to fit the special characteristics of the small center-fire cartridges.

Actually, the Winchester Company had recognized the need for such a rifle a good many years ago and had one ready to go into production just before Herr Hitler and his supermen began their murderous onslaught on humanity. The war, of course, brushed all minor enterprises aside. I had a look at a sample copy of the rifle at that time and was enthusiastic about it as was every one else who saw it. We were agreed that it was an ideal rifle for the Hornet type of cartridge.

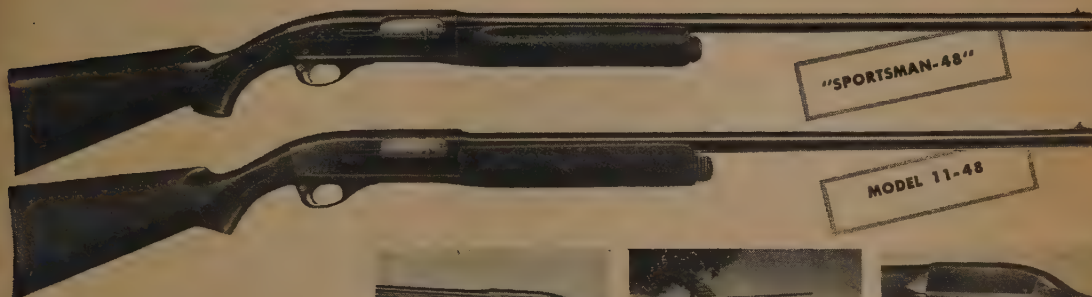
The years passed and nothing more was heard of it, though I sometimes recalled it with a feeling of nostalgic regret akin to what one feels when a promising book disappears before it has been read. And then out of a cloudy March sky came the Win. Model 43, looking much as it did 10 years ago.

The Model 43 is a solid frame, bolt action rifle weighing about 6 pounds. It has a 24-inch barrel stiff enough apparently to insure accuracy and to hold its zero from day to day. I have not fired the rifle as yet but reports from others indicate groups of two inches or less at 100 yards as normal with the Hornet and the Win. Bee cartridges.

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DOUBLE CROSS ON GROUSE

(Continued from page 9)

"Off day!" snorted the Old Hunter. "I'm not sure but what you've improved since the last time we were out."

"Thank you, durn your hide," I said. "I may show you a thing or two yet," I added, thinking of the bird in my game pocket and counting on a chance to use it to the best advantage.

"You'd better be about it then," said the Old Hunter glancing at the low-hanging sun. "We haven't got more'n half an hour of shooting light."

We put our usual distance between us and headed back, but my bird-flushing luck seemed to have forsaken me. I had almost concluded that I wasn't going to get a chance to pull any monkey business with my stolen bird and had even begun to feel faint, though very faint, twinges of remorse over my conduct when Lady Luck stepped in and took charge.

We were covering ground that we had hunted through on our way in but I felt sure that birds would have worked back in the thornapples, getting in another lick at the small fruit which loaded the spiny trees. A clump of the laden trees directly ahead looked particularly birdy and fortunately I was ready when a bird roared out and

started to climb. I swung the gun frantically in the general direction of the hurtling shape and let go. I expected the usual lack of results but wonder of wonders, the bird folded as if electrocuted and plunged to earth.

I acknowledged this miraculous coincidence in the respective trajectories of bird and shot with a sharp yelp of delight but at the same instant I discovered that with my shot another bird had sprung into flight and was careening toward thick cover at my right. He had just about reached it when I had swung the gun around and touched her off. I couldn't have said for the life of me if I shot at the bird or the place where he had just disappeared. But I got off two fast shots and had finally knocked down a bird, which was exactly what I had been hoping for.

"Where'd he go?" bellowed the Old Hunter, coming in from my right.

I had to work fast, but I had the stolen bird out of my game pocket and into my hand when he came in sight.

"Thanks for the vote of confidence," I said. "But it wasn't he; it was they, and of course they both stayed with me."

"Whattaya givin' me?"

"In spite of your limited powers of comprehension, I think you will grant that this is one bird," I said, holding up the grouse I held in my hand and then quickly stuffing it back in my game pocket before he could inspect it closely. "And this," I continued, walking over and picking up the bird I had hit, "makes two, the second half of a double, a fact which even you should be able to grasp. What I doubt, however, is your ability to appreciate the full significance of the drama which has just been enacted. A brace of grouse in simultaneous flight, the smooth swing of the hunter's gun as he coolly leads the first bird and fires, the thrill of a perfect hit, the instantaneous recovery and the perfectly executed second shot—a glittering gem of wingshooting skill executed, unfortunately, with only you as a witness. What a tragedy."

"I'll be doggoned," said the Old Hunter, unimpressed by my rhetoric but certainly flabbergasted by what appeared to have taken place. "A clean double! I'd rather have your luck than a license to steal." He lifted his hat and scratched his head with the same hand. "There'll be no living with you

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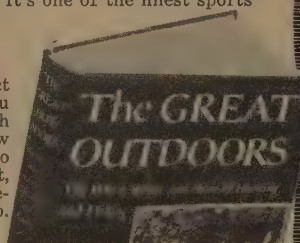
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from now on, I can see that," he added sighing heavily. "I hate to think of how many times I'll have to hear about this. He shuddered visibly.

"I'll have you know that I am a man who lets his actions speak for themselves," I protested.

"That they do, that they do," said the Old Hunter. "While you're practicing your newly acquired modesty, I'm going to have a last look for that bird I lost, seein' how we're back on scene once more."

I hadn't noticed it before, but now I realized that we had, indeed, wound up where the mystery of the missing bird had developed. I had but to glance to my right to spot the spruce by which the Old Hunter had marked his falling grouse and he plodded off in that direction.

FOR a moment I let my ego expand positive that I had put one over on the old man at last, but the illusion of success was suddenly shattered by rather startling development.

"Aha!" I heard the Old Hunter exclaim.

"Whaddaya mean, 'aha'?" I hollered. There followed some muttered exclamations which I couldn't make out and then the Old Hunter reappeared. He was holding a grouse in his hand.

"Knew that son-of-a-gun was there all the time," he exclaimed. "Landed in a ground hemlock; didn't look over carefully enough the first time."

"But it couldn't have been there . . . er . . . what I mean is that if it had been there then I . . . er . . . that is, mean, if . . . Lemme see that bird." I was the best I could do under the circumstances.



"—Some of the boys are going hunting up in the big woods next week—uh—no . . . I need a rest, Doc says, and he suggested a gunning trip—er—uh . . . the boss likes hunting and insisted I accompany him. . . ."

"Just what the heck *do* you mean?" asked the Old Hunter, pitching the dead grouse at my feet.

I stooped and picked it up. It was stiff and cold as a whetstone. I looked at the Old Hunter. He returned the look with interest.

"Aw, skip it," I said.

My mind didn't stop doing a teeter-totter until I had the station wagon half way home. When it did, I was overwhelmed by the significance of the obvious conclusion.

"Awright, I'll come clean if you will," I said.

"What's eatin' you? I found that lost bird to fill my limit and you scored a double. What more do you want?" He started to hum something which sounded vaguely like "The End of a Perfect Day."

"Lay off, doggone you, this is serious. That last bird you picked up; he must have been warm—fresh killed."

"Always knew that weak mind would give out on you someday. Don't expect me to come visiting you at the asylum, neither. You've been enough trouble as it . . ."

"I'm gonna stop the car and come at you with a jack handle," I warned.

"Gotta humor him, I suppose," said the Old Hunter as though to a third party. "Lemme see now. I did take the birds out of my coat to count them just before I found that lost one. Always losing track of the count, I am, when I'm pa'tridge hunting. Easy for a man as deadly as me to go over the limit if he doesn't watch out. Had three of them out on the ground when I spotted that other one. Now, come to think of it, I don't know but he did feel a mite warmer than the others; couldn't say for certain, though."

"And the one you brought back to show me; that was one of the others," I urged.

"Could be, could be," admitted the Old Hunter. "Probably was, as a matter of fact. After all, we fellers who can step out and bag a limit of birds any old time ain't likely to pay no mind to which was first and which was last when we're through. A pa'tridge's a pa'tridge, I always say."

"I knew it!" I hollered. "I hit that second bird after all. And you, you conniving old whelp, switched birds so I'd go on lying about a double which I had actually made. Of all the low down. . . ."

"Why, you bird-stealing pup, I ought to. . . ."

"Okay, okay, I had it coming to me," I admitted. "But a double on grouse! I told you I'd hit my stride. Why dog-gone it, that makes me an expert. I bet it makes me the only guy in this. . . ."

"It makes me sick," said the Old Hunter.

I think he really meant it.



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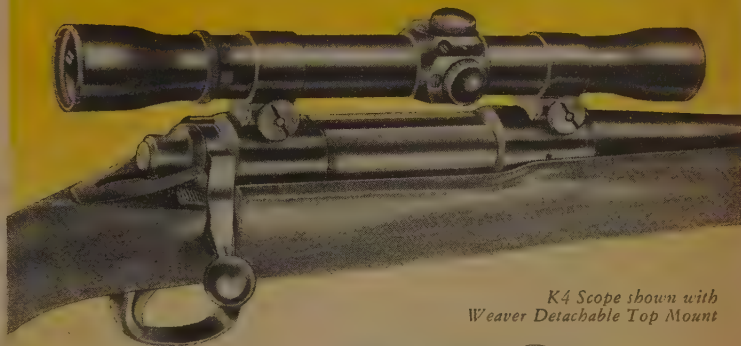
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POPOWSKI WINS CROW CHAMPIONSHIP

BERT POPOWSKI, author of *Crow Shooting* and a frequent contributor to *Outdoors*, proved that his articles on crow hunting weren't pure fiction by winning the recent National Crow Shooting Championship from a field of 52 shooters, including five former national titlists. This was the first championship in which the Aberdeen, S.D. expert had matched his calling and marksmanship against the best in the nation.

Crow-calling enthusiasts from nine states gathered at Grand Rapids, Ohio, on June 18 for a three-hour shoot in which 203 crows bit the dust. Bert, using a pair of calls of his own design, bagged 18, but lost three in heavy underbrush, so his winning score was 15 crows. Runner-up John Ricker of Blissfield, Mich., bagged 14.

Popowski's first crow-shooting article since he became champion will appear shortly in *Outdoors*.



CHAMPION crow hunter: Bert Popowski proves he knows his stuff

GRAYTAILS IN THE HAZELNUTS

(Continued from page 12)

tion we were hunting and we both decided to leave this old girl and her early litter alone. But Squirt had other ideas, and we had a hard time dragging him away from the tree.

Near a small brook that wound and trickled through the woods Gent paused and pointed toward the ground—fresh hazelnut cuttings. Gent and I talk mostly by signs in the squirrel woods, as we have learned that it pays to keep quiet. I was examining a handful of empty hulls when Squirt yelped sharply. The empty nut shells pattered to the ground as I cocked my head to listen. Then the dog yelped again, and we headed in his direction in a hurry.

Gent had taken a lot of pains in training his dog and Squirt followed the gray-tail's every move as it jumped from branch to branch. I saw it leap from one tree to another before we caught up with the yelping dog and I also saw a den tree not far away. From there on, it was like a halfback sprinting for a touchdown. I don't do it often but I did it that time. I nailed that graytail in mid-air between trees. A second later and I would have missed my chance. Gent muttered something that sounded like "Dumb luck," and I tried to look modest.

Several hundred yards farther down the winding stream, old Squirt opened up again. He quickly settled down to a steady tree song, and we found him barking up a gnarled old hazelnut beside the brook. I saw two squirrels flicker their tails before we reached the tree, and I suspected there might be more. Gray squirrels like to get together after they have filled their stomachs to play for a while before returning home for a

mid-day siesta. In good squirrel territory you can often hit a jackpot of this kind along about mid-morning, after they've had time to feed away from their dens. And that old hazelnut was simply alive with squirrels. Old Squirt was tearing his throat out when we arrived and the grays were jumping in every direction.

I heard Gent's .22 crack before I could get lined up and I saw his squirrel tumble to the ground. I cut down on one speeding along a limb and sent him spinning. Gent got in another shot while I tried for a high climber scurrying down the main trunk of the tree.

If you've ever shot at a squirrel scrambling hell-for-leather down a tree trunk right toward you, you may understand why I missed this one by a yard. I must have scared him right out of his socks, though, because he let go and leaped straight at my face. He may have missed me by more than a foot, but I doubt it. However, I had a clear shot at him as he took off on the ground and rolled him end-over-end.

I could have reloaded and still had plenty of time to get a couple more, they were still jumping all over the tree. But I had enough for a squirrel pie, so I left them there for seed. I looked around to see Gent with a satisfied grin on his face, holding up a nice pair and I knew he had enough, too.

That was the end of the hunt and the season. But this fall, after the hickory nuts are gone and the field corn in, the graytails will seek the hardwood ridges where frosty nights have cracked the hazelnut burs. When that time rolls around, look for Gent and old Squirt to me deep in the squirrel woods again.



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NEW BOOKS

THE GREAT OUTDOORS, edited by Joe Godfrey Jr. and Frank Dufresne (Whittlesey House, N. Y. \$6.50)

For sheer reading pleasure, here is the book for the long winter evenings. It is a gathering of famous sportsmen, sitting together and spinning yarns about the sports they know best—Ollie Rodman on striped bass fishing, John Alden Knight on trout fishing, Col. H. P. Sheldon on hunting grouse and woodcock, Lee Wulff on salmon fishing—two dozen of them in all, each with something to say and the skill to say it entertainingly.

In addition to the 24 chapters, the book contains a dictionary of sportsmen's terms, records for fresh and salt water fish and big game, and a map showing the major waterfowl flyways of the United States.

THE BOY'S COMPLETE BOOK OF FRESH AND SALT WATER FISHING, by O. H. P. Rodman and E. C. Janes (Little, Brown & Co., Boston. \$3.50)

Here is the book for the youngster just starting out as a fisherman. In the kind of language boys understand and enjoy, the authors describe the tackle, methods and tricks that take all kinds of fish in both fresh and salt water. How to assemble gear, how to cast with all types of fishing tackle, what baits and lures to use and where to look for the various species of game fish... all these and many other subjects are covered completely and carefully.

The authors are both well qualified to write on salt and fresh water fishing. Between them they have covered the fishing field thoroughly, and their book will be helpful to any young man who wants to know more about America's favorite sport.

TRAINING YOUR RETRIEVER, by James Lamb Free (Coward-McCann Inc., N. Y. \$5)

It's seldom a "how-to" book is written with such a lively sense of humor as to be as entertaining as it is instructive. But this one is. At the same time, the author uses words and pictures to tell the whole story of training the various retriever breeds on land, water, and in the home. A truly valuable book for the duck-dog owner, by a top-notch amateur trainer.

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WHAT DOES YOUR FLY ROD WEIGH?

By LEE WULFF, *Fishing Editor*

THE fisherman's face was very red. He had bragged too loudly and once too often about the big fish he'd taken on his "3½-ounce" fly rod. Somebody brought out a postal scales and placed the rod upon them. A great hush fell over the gathering on the hotel porch as the needle swung right up past the 3½-ounce mark and finally came to rest at 4½. Someone snickered and someone else broke into a loud guffaw. The funny part of it all was that the red-faced fisherman actually thought he was using a 3½-ounce fly rod because that's what the label said it was.

It looks as if some manufacturers and some fishermen want to have their cake and eat it, too—like the fellow who had a 5-ounce rod with a skeleton reel seat and decided to have a locking reel seat put on it instead. The new weight was a fraction over 6 ounces but he continued to call it a 5-ounce rod. He had acquired the advantage of a locking reel but wasn't willing publicly to pay the price in added weight.

Some time back a few of the manufacturers started listing weights less the reel seats instead of total weights and supplying the reel seat weights so that an angler interested in the net weight, less reel seat, could find it by simply subtracting. That method of listing gave them latitude to use any type of reel seat and still label the rod with a uniform weight, giving a better sales impression where heavy reel seats were used. We recently looked over a salt water fly rod marked 5½ ounces which actually weighed 7½ ounces on the scales. It was made by one of the country's best known and most respected tackle firms. The discrepancy in this case is so great that it can't help starting a bit of wonder in the mind of the buyer. Is that 5½-ounce figure *really* accurate? Didn't the manufacturer fudge a little bit and make the bamboo, guide and ferrule content of the rod sound lighter than it really was? There's not much the average angler can do except go on wondering because it would be expen-

sive and difficult to take the rod apart just to weigh the components and then put them back together again.

There seems little doubt that the overall weight is the weight that should be listed. It is the one weight which the angler himself can check, the one he can boast about and prove irrefutably any time he feels the need of it. If there is any point at all to listing a fly rod weight, the gross weight is the only one worth listing. If a man feels that a 5-ounce rod will not tire him with all-day casting, he doesn't want to order a stick of this weight and find that it actually tips the scales at

Ever put your four-ounce rod on the scales?

You may be surprised at its actual weight

close to 7 ounces. If he does, he may have purchased a rod that will tire him out under a label that told him it wouldn't.

We sent letters on this subject to a cross-section of rod makers and here are the results. The following manufacturers list the total weight of their



The makers' labels don't always tell the whole story on fly rod weights

DRAWING BY SOL LEVENSON

ods on the tags: Orvis, Thomas, Phillipon, Winston, Shakespeare, Granger, South Bend and Uslan. Payne rods, among the finest ever made, are listed as with skeleton reel seats whether they have them or not. If screw-locking reel seats are on the rods instead an additional $\frac{1}{2}$ of an ounce must be added by the purchaser to get the true weight. Heddon lists ferrule sizes and classes their rods as minus the reel seats and fittings. They advise that $\frac{1}{2}$ of an ounce must be added to the listed weights in order to get the actual weight of the finished rod. At this writing, replies have not been received from several other companies.

Thus it appears that the greater share of the rods in the stores are listed at their true total weights but that both in the highest as well as medium grade rods a purchaser may find fly rods weighing more than the ticket says they do. It is not my place to tell the manufacturers how they should list their fly rod weights but it is very much my duty, as I see it, to advise all of you readers that the weights on the tickets of the fly rods you buy will not always be the total weights. Unless you know the policy of the manufacturer of the rod and have faith in his integrity, the wisest thing you can do is to insist upon having the rod put on a scales when you buy it.

IN THESE days of claims and counter claims of prowess in taking fish on light fly rods, it behooves each claimant to weigh his own rods on a tested scales before he makes his claims. My own 7-foot Orvis is on the scales before me as I write and the needle stands at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. I would be inclined to resent the claim by another angler to equal ability if he said he equalled my fishing feats with a supposed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ounce rod which actually weighed 3 ounces. Even if he claims his reel seat weighs $\frac{1}{2}$ of an ounce (some weigh less) and mine only weighs $\frac{1}{4}$ of an ounce, how can he prove it? I'm sure any angler who takes pride in his ability to cast a fly or subdue a fish on delicate tackle would feel much the same.

The advent of the locking reel seat boosted the weight of fly rods. The vogue for the locking reel seat was due in large part to the variation in reels which made it difficult to make a wooden or cork reel seat that would hold all reels securely. I hope that, too, will one day be rectified. Some of us may live to see the day when any American fly reel can be fitted snugly and securely to any American fly rod. But that's another story.

The locking reel seat is not a necessity, just a convenience, and sometimes a questionable one, at that. For those who like their fly rods light in weight such a reel seat is a heavy luxury. By a little judicious shaping of the wood



"Pop" Reveals Secret of the Chugger Spook

E. A. "Pop" Kilheffer, Tenn., fishing column editor, has an oldtimer's wisdom in the ways of fish. Pop's favorite lure is a Heddon Chugger Spook. He says he casts it in a likely spot, lets it lie motionless, then gently twitches his rod tip to make the lure chug and dive a few inches. He repeats this routine several times, slowly retrieves his bait, pauses, twitches, etc. These four bass, weighing over 20 lbs., are evidence of Pop's know-how with a Heddon Pal Rod and a Chugger Spook.

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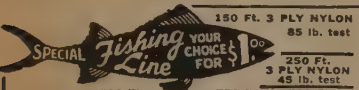
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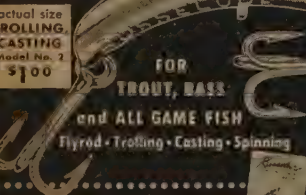
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or cork of the conventional skeleton grip, reels may be made to fit them solidly. A file or sandpaper and elbow grease will do the trick. For those who want to do it the quick and easy way I can recommend the new scotch electrical tape. A reel banded to the rod with a ring of this light but strong adhesive tape is more securely attached than when held by some of the threaded type reel seats.

The manufacturers are anxious to please the buyers of their products. If, when buying fly rods, you check the actual weights of rods on the dealer's scales and explain to him that the only weight you are interested in is the one you can check—the overall weight—he'll get word back to the manufacturers and the rods will come through the way you want them.

To sum it up, as I see it, the only weight that means much is the total weight. Having that, any angler can deduct the reel seat weight if he wants to get the probable weight of the rod itself. It tells how much weight the caster will hold in his hand in addition to the weight of reel, line, leader and fly. The weight of his fly rod is a measure of an angler's skill. To those who claim that the bamboo only should be weighed or that the type of reel seat should be optional at the same weight listing, one can reply that if a locking reel seat is an advantage why shouldn't the user accept the additional weight penalty? A weight that cannot be checked is not worth a darn in a competitive field. Can you imagine a championship boxing match where the glove weights were listed before the leather was put on and each contestant was allowed to supply his own covering? If a weight listing is used at all, it is either informative or competitive and in each case the total weight is the simplest and best way to tell the whole story.

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A small flashlight is one of the handiest gadgets a fisherman can carry. It takes up little space and weighs almost nothing. It can be invaluable when trying to tie on a lure just at dusk when the big fish are breaking all around you and every moment is precious. Such a small light can be seen for a long distance and can serve as a signal after dark as well as a means of following a trail or looking at a map or compass. The value of the small flashlight lies not so much in the amount of use you give it as in the insurance it gives you that if darkness falls you'll not be completely blind. My fishing vest has a pocket designed to hold the smallest single-celled flashlight. It is always with me when fishing, and half a dozen times a year I'm glad I carry it regularly.

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OUTDOORS

Big Fish Contest

EARLY entries in the OUTDOORS fishing contest mean anything, this will be known in the annals of angling as the Year of Big Fish. Although the contest has been running only a couple of weeks as this is written, the judges have already admitted six anglers into the Sockdolager Club, open only to those who enter fish weighing at least 10 lb. for the record for the species. And three of those new Sockdolager Club members made it with scores ranging above 70.

The most spectacular catch entered in the contest so far is the mammoth 14-lb. brown trout that Carl Mayhew of Gardiner, Me. caught from Rangeley Lake, a body of water famed throughout the East for its big brook trout and landlocked salmon. According to the Maine Development Commission, the browns got into Rangeley by mistake, but the mistake was a happy one for Carl Mayhew. His big brownie is now the fish that other anglers have not to beat for first prize in the Maine Division—although there are nine other Maine prizes that lesser fish will win.

Mayhew's brownie won several honors for its captor. It not only carries the highest score in the contest so far (79.166 points, obtained by dividing the weight of the fish by the North American brown trout record of 24 pounds), but it also leads the Maine Division, puts Mayhew in the Sockdolager Club, and furthermore it means that the highest score to date has been achieved by the youngest entrant, for



Thirteen-year-old Carl Mayhew of Gardiner, Me., leads the Maine Division with this 14-lb. brown trout from Rangeley Lake. His score of 79.166 is highest in the contest so far

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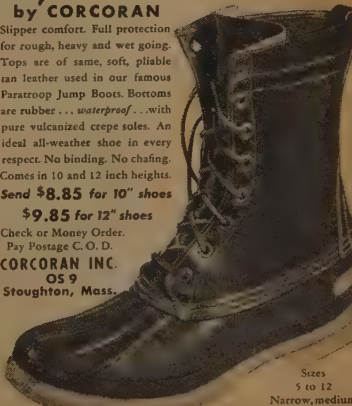
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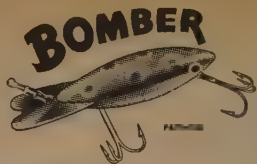


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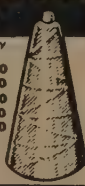
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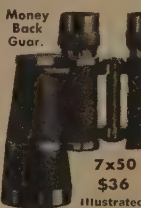
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Dept. B, c/o OUTDOORS Magazine
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Carl was only 12 years old on May 15, the day on which he landed the big fish!

Other leaders and Sockdolager Club members to date include:

Dr. Howard T. Herber, Malvern, L.I., N.Y., 13½-lb. weakfish from Long Beach, N.Y. Score: 75.714.

Robert J. Taylor, Orlo Vista, Fla., 10½-lb. smallmouth bass from Lake Orlo, Fla., 73.214.

Ernest T. Barker, Bonny Blue, Va., 14-lb., 9-oz. walleyed pike from Powhatan River, Penna., 65.449.

Robert Moyes, Belgrade, Me., 7-lb. 9-oz. brook trout from Messalonskee Lake, Me., 52.155.

Floyd Kashuba, Dolgeville, N.Y., 11 lb., 3-oz. walleyed pike from Otsego Lake, N.Y., 50.280.

These high scores should not discourage other fishermen, however. The Outdoors Big Fish Contest offers a total of 550 prizes, ten in each division worth a total of \$6,500, so a lot of other anglers are going to win prizes too—and not all of them with sockdolager sized fish.

As yet the salt water fishermen haven't taken advantage of their opportunity to show the fresh water boys where the big ones come from. But with the peak of the ocean fishing just coming up, we expect to receive more salt-encrusted entries of striped bass, bluefish, tuna and other lunkers of the briny.

Now to answer a few questions about the Big Fish Contest:

No, entrants do not have to figure out the score of their fish; we do it for them on an electrical calculating machine. The formula is simple: just divide the weight of the fish by the all-tackle record for the species. The resulting percentage figure becomes the score.

Yes, winners can choose their own prizes, from fishing tackle and equipment advertised in OUTDOORS. Awards are not in cash.

Yes, it's okay to use entry blanks supplied by your local sporting goods dealer—in fact, you'll find it much more convenient than copying the sample blank from this magazine. If your dealer can't supply, you write blanks, write to us enclosing a 3-cent stamp and we'll send you one by return mail.

No, crappies, calico bass and sunfish are not eligible. The contest is limited to the species generally considered game fish—18 from fresh water and 25 from both the Atlantic and Pacific.

No, you cannot win more than one prize in any one division, but you may enter as many fish as you wish, and the largest will constitute your entry in that division. You may also enter more than one division, and you can

KEEP ON BUYING U. S. BONDS AND STAMPS

win prizes in more than one—if you're lucky.

Yes, you can use any tackle, so long as it comprises rod, reel and line. Fish taken on either bait or artificial lures are eligible.

No, you need not have your entry both witnessed and notarized, unless you think the fish is a record-breaker. In that case, two witnesses and a notary public are necessary. If it's not a record fish, either two witnesses or the signature of a notary public will be sufficient.

AND NOW a final word about the prizes. The OUTDOORS Big Fish Contest offers a total of \$6,500 worth of fishing tackle which the winners may choose themselves. There are 550 individual awards, 50 for juniors, and ten in each of 50 divisions (see Rule 6 on page 7). In addition, the contest offers Special Grand Awards of 1950 model Nash automobiles with built-in twin beds, and in addition a complete set of Seiberling tires and tubes, to any anglers who are fortunate enough to break the all-tackle record for any of the 43 eligible fish. Those are mighty attractive prizes.

We're sure, of course, that the 550 regular prizes will be taken away after the close of the contest, and we're hoping that some records will be broken so we can give away a few Nash cars. But you've got to enter to win, and now's the time. So the next larger-than-average fish you catch, enter it in the OUTDOORS Big Fish Contest and put yourself in line for at least one of those prizes!

See page 17 for complete list of rules and prizes and sample Entry and Affidavit Form.



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FANTASTIC SALTON SEA

(Continued from page 11)

day, had to run a gauntlet of pelicans. It is doubtful if any of the fish survived, but the possibility is intriguing.

In 1934 the California Division of Fish and Game attempted unsuccessfully to introduce silver salmon to the waters of the Sea, but the experiment also failed—apparently. However, with small bait fish now available in quantity, perhaps these fish or others can become established. Suppose, for example, sailfish could make themselves at home in the Salton Sea!

Commercial fishermen taking mullet from the Sea are restricted to gill nets of 5½-inch mesh, which allows fish smaller than mullet to pass through, and prevents larger ones from getting caught. But every once in a while commercial fishermen complain about something entangled in their nets that is bigger and stronger than any of the known fish in the Sea, something that tears the nets to pieces and never gets caught.

Anyone familiar with ocean fish knows that when schools of bait fish begin jumping it is a good guess that predator fish are underneath, feeding and driving the smaller fish to surface. It is no uncommon sight to see schools of large mullet jumping in the Salton Sea, and recently the anchovettas have been seen boiling the surface, too!

Officially, the Sea now holds only mullet, some native minnows and ten-pounders. But California has now become interested in developing the Salton Sea as a possible sport fishing area. And why not? Analysis of the

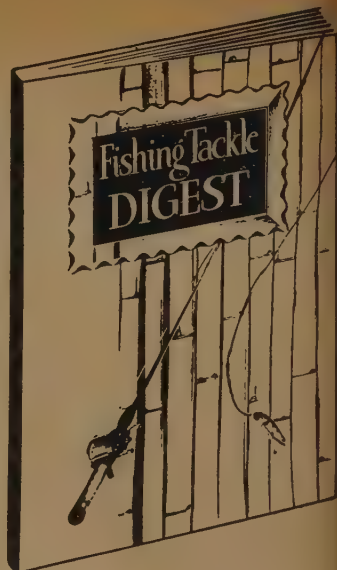


"—I understand you're a pretty good cook, Ed!"

"—Good? Say, cooks don't come any better than Ed!"

"—Yes, sir! You ain't tasted chow until you've tasted o' Ed's chow!"

"—Guess we're just plain lucky to have good o' Ed on this trip with us, eh, Ed?"



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water shows it to be comparable to ocean water off the Florida Keys.

So, anything can happen!

Old desert rats in that region tell a tall one that even might be called a young legend. According to the story, on certain misty nights when the moon is full and riding high, you can see an old Spanish galleon sail across the Sea. Maybe this is more of an omen than a legend. Perhaps if the next observers of this ghost ship look closely they might see fishermen sitting in swivel chairs on the stern, trolling for salt water game fish. Could be — yes sir, could be!

ED ZERN'S PAGE

(Continued from page 16)

"Why not?" I asked.

"Look," the doctor said. "I've got a friend here in town who fishes buck-tails all through the season. He's a good fisherman, and he's fished around here for fifteen years. And he's never caught a trout over five and a half pounds!"

"Just a minute, doctor," I said, rocking back on my heels. "Exactly what do you mean by a big brown trout?"

"Well," said the doctor. "I've never thought of defining it in exact terms. But as a rule, when folks around this section talk about a big trout, they mean something over eight pounds."

I explained that when I said "big," I meant a brown eighteen inches or over, and would, in fact, settle for seventeen and three-quarters in an emergency. The doctor said oh, that was different; I could probably dredge up quite a few of that size, if I hit even halfway decent conditions.

As it turned out, my biggest trout in two days of hard fishing went just over fifteen inches, thanks to a combination of low water and my usual incompetence—but I did learn that what the doc had told me was true, and that a trout which on the Beaverkill or the Ausable would be considered a lunker was, in that section (which I'm obliged not to mention), a fish to be patted on the tail and turned loose to grow up.

I'm not sure whether there's any particular point to all this, unless it's that there ought to be a rule against outdoor writers writing about "big" fish (of any species), without specifying the length and/or weight of the fish.

That's not any great shakes of a point, I suppose, but it will have to do.

This month's question-and-answer department:

Dear Mr. Zern: I understand that certain scents are used to attract fish to bait. Yet fish have no noses. My question is, how do they smell?—Howard Branch, Wilmington, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Branch: Fishy.—E. Z.

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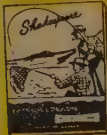
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SHARKS FROM SMALL BOATS

HENRY LYMAN, SALT WATER EDITOR

By TOM HELM III

**Sharks are where you find them
and they're always hungry**

FISHING for sharks from a small boat is by no means a new sport, but it's one that frequently is overlooked. It would be hard to locate a body of salt water on the earth where some form of shark isn't found. Of course, the closer to the equator you go the greater number of sharks you will find and the more varied the species will be. If you're the venturesome type you may want to try your hand at shark fishing. The odds are all in favor of you catching one and, contrary to popular belief, the action will be fast and furious—especially if you are using medium weight tackle and doing your fishing from a small boat.

Unlike other fish, sharks are always hungry. It seems to make little difference how much food they have already eaten, if they spot a chunk of something that looks like grub you can bet they are going to bite at it. Because a shark is a practical creature, and since he's well aware of his appetite, then it only stands to reason that he's going to hang around the spots where the food supply is plentiful.

To find the greatest concentration of sharks you will do well to ask the local commercial fishermen. These are the lads who know only too well where the sharks are found and they hate 'em with a passion. Considering the damage even a medium-size shark can do to one of those several-hundred-yard seines it's only logical that the commercial boys would despise the whole shark population.

If you're going to do your shark fishing from a rowboat then look for your quarry around the inside channels, the mouths of inlets and jetties, and on the flats around close-to-shore islands. The best time for fishing is right about the turn of the tide, and for a couple of hours after the tide starts in. The second best time is the two hours following the outgoing turn. If you plan your trip when the turn of the tide occurs around sunrise or sunset, then so much the better. Frequently, shark fishing pays off in big dividends after dark. But it's always a good idea to make a

couple of daylight trips first so you can get the hang of it.

If you are the average fisherman who gets a crack at salt water fishing for only about two weeks out of the year your supply of tackle will probably be limited. If you have a six-foot rod with a 12-ounce tip and a 6/0 reel that will hold something over 300 yards of 27-thread line then you're well fixed. It should be said right here that these figures are not ironclad. A shade smaller will fill the bill just as well as will gear that is a bit on the heavier

side. For a hook that you can depend on get a 20/0 Kirby with about three feet of small chain. This should be attached to several feet of high grade leader wire.

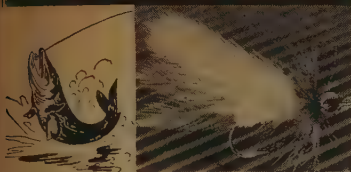
Other than the fundamental tackle mentioned above you will need a strong gaff hook, sharp knife, belt rest for your rod, and it's good insurance to carry along a pistol or revolver—better check with the local port authorities on this first, however.

Choice of bait is fairly wide. Fish is the most popular bait for medium size



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sharks. Whole mullet, mackerel, or any fish will be suitable. Force the hook into the fish somewhere about the anal fin and work it forward until the point comes out the gill opening. Since your hook is a large one and likely to fear the fish pretty badly a good method of keeping it on the hook is by wrapping several turns of heavy cotton line tightly around the spot where the hook has entered the flesh.

With the reel drag off and the click set the bait should be tossed out several yards from the side of the boat and allowed to sink. If the chum basket has been over the side for a few minutes the chances are good that you will have a strike almost by the time the bait reaches the bottom.

The strike may or may not be a fast one. Often a shark will think he has found a new feeding ground and will be in no hurry to leave. In a minute or so, however, your line will suddenly grow taut. When it does, set the hook with all the enthusiasm you can muster. Heave back on that rod as if you might be trying to snatch a hunk out of the bottom of the bay. There are two good reasons for this violent hook setting. One is that the inside of a shark's mouth is tough — plenty tough, and you want to be sure he's hooked securely on the first lunge. The second reason is that if the shark really gets the feel of the hook from the beginning he's going to start right out fighting.

LET the shark run at first after you have set the hook. If he does pass beneath the boat take your time and get the line clear before you start tightening down on the drag. If you are in the boat alone, your best seat is the one just forward of the stern. Here you have complete freedom to turn about in any direction and the boat will ride better if the shark decides to tow you. One of the favorite tricks of a hooked shark is to head for a deep hole and sound. Frequently, a sounded shark will sulk until you are positive your line has been fouled around some underwater obstruction. Here, steady pulling on the part of the fisherman is next to useless. A shark is a powerful creature and, provided he is large enough, all he needs to do is point his head slightly downward and wag his tail while you sit up there wearing yourself out. One way of stirring a sulking shark into action is to give a series of violent yanks on the rod. Let the line go slack between each jerk so that each time you heave back the hook chain slaps the shark on the side of his head.

Fighting time for a medium size shark may last only 30 or 40 minutes, but don't be alarmed if well past the two hour mark you and brother shark are still horsing each other around out there on the bay.



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FOR AUTUMN CRUISING

By ELON JESSUP, BOATING EDITOR

***Don't haul your boat out after Labor Day.
There's plenty of good cruising ahead***

HERE are a few personal items intended to influence your boating plans for the immediate future. They log one man's experiences from late September through November. Not so long ago, I happened to spend the end of September at the business end of a canoe paddle in northern Maine. It may seem like a strange time of year to pick for canoeing in Maine but I've never experienced a more pleasurable week in the woods—days still bright and balmy, insects completely absent and trees at their colorful best.

October and November, right up to Thanksgiving, found me periodically bunked aboard a friend's 32-foot cabin cruiser in and about the waters of Cape Cod. Wasn't it pretty cold stuff? Not with the smart little Shipmate stove in the cabin. I've never kept warmer ashore.

Further variety was added to the autumnal repertoire by a journey I took last September to Oshkosh, Wis., for the purpose of attending outboard boat and motor demonstrations sponsored by the OBC. The spray flew fast at times and some of the boys got pretty wet but it was boating weather that might have been transplanted from mid-summer. Why hold all your regattas in August?

About a month after this and still again in the middle of November I went fishing. The fish were striped bass, the place off Cuttyhunk Island, the boat a wide open 22-foot inboard with no spot aboard to dodge wind or spray. Undeniably, the days had grown nipplier and out there on the open Atlantic they could let you know it. Yet I felt no cause for complaint. Clothes

made the difference. Suitably attired for the job, we kept completely dry and reasonably warm.

During the course of the foregoing activities, the majority of boats in each of the localities mentioned had either been packed away in moth balls for the winter or were in the process of being packed. I wondered, as I still do, why their owners should deliberately deprive themselves of continued boating pleasures so easily available. This is the thought behind my present plea for stretching the boating season. Admittedly, there are far northern localities where the game can't work very well. But also note the wide range of territory as well as the diversity of boats and waters covered in the first part of the present article.

Accepted custom dies hard. It has

PHOTO BY EVINRUDE



You'll find the duck hunters out in their open boats right into the winter

lways been the custom to store boats way soon after Labor Day. But I doubt if you've ever seen a hunter complain of nippy Fall air when the ducks are flying or an angler when good fishing is still available. A tiny duck boat crossing open water serves as an object lesson of what a small boat can take and it also points out that it can be sort of foolish to chain a small boat down to a specified season.

Actually, the present day boating set-up is more generally encouraging to all operations than ever before. The problem of what to do with a boat between cruises is now solved to the satisfaction of many owners by hoisting it to the top of a car or towing it by trailer. A boat at beck and call in your own garage is different from a boat buried in some marine garage. Further, there's the much wider range of boating territory available.

Not least, there are the new materials of which so many of the modern small boats are built—molded plywood, metals and plastics—that assure you of a watertight hull, even if the boat is kept out of water for weeks at a time. Unless weather conditions are unusually bad or ice has set in, it would be difficult to think of a plausible excuse for not taking a cruise on an otherwise idle Sunday.

Actually, we find in various refinements of modern small boat construction that the weather has been taken into account. For example, the spray rails with which many outboard boats are equipped have their special value in stopping the chill spray of October and November from coming aboard. The windshield, also often standard equipment, proves a further help. In some cases, a windshield is supplemented by a small house providing complete protection. For open boats



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that aren't equipped with windshields it isn't a difficult matter to rig up shield or canvas spray hood, even on canoe.

The secret of enjoying fall boating in keeping dry and warm, partly protective measures of the sort just mentioned, but also and importantly by wearing more clothes of the right kind to perform the double job of turning water and supplying warmth. Together with plenty of wool underneath, the Navy costume of rubberized pants and parka has come into special favor since the war. The parka's hood prevents water from trickling down the back of your neck as all too often happens with the oldtime oilskins.

If your boat affords the luxury of a cabin, you are fixed fine for warm and snug as a bug in a rug. And so astonishingly small boats nowadays carry cabins, as witness most of the stock outboard cabin cruisers, some of which have overall lengths of only 10 to 16 feet, lengths, incidentally, which also fit neatly into the trailer picture.

OF COURSE, it won't be the sort of cabin for which one would recommend a wood or coal burning stove, but if you happen to own a boat with a cabin big enough to accommodate one, I can hardly suggest a more generally satisfactory combined heating and cooking plant, although one which is somewhat uncomfortable during the warm summer months. An interesting alternative has come out since the war in the form of "fluid heat," a small unit no bigger than a portable radio which burns either gasoline or kerosene. It operates independently of an engine.

For smaller boats with cabin accommodations, about the smartest little heating device we've seen is one built to operate in conjunction with a small alcohol stove. Set it over one of the burners and plug in a small fan which operates on six volts d.c. This fan is built into the unit, circulates the heat, and in summer, without the burner, the fan can also be used to cool the cabin.

This brings us to the boat itself. Watching the weather, one can usually escape uncomfortably hard blows, but it is also only common sense to be prepared for the worst. Give your boat a thorough check-up before embarking upon a Fall program. She has gone through a tough summer, during which hard knocks and blazing mid-day sun in all probability haven't done her a bit of good. If any fastenings have loosened, either tighten them up or get new ones. An incipient leak might develop with full force later on. The steering gear, if you use it, is one of several other items to come in for observation. Heavy weather subjects steering gear to special strain.

By Captain Amos L. Horst

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AMERICAN sportsmen are indebted to China for the ringnecked pheasant, which has virtually saved our upland shooting. However, the first pheasants did not reach this country direct from China, but from England. George Washington brought a few birds over here in 1790 and released them in Virginia. Ten years later Governor Wentworth of New Hampshire stocked a few in his state. But the real foundation stock of ringnecks landed in Oregon in 1880. Oregon opened the first pheasant shooting season in 1892, with a reported kill of about 50,000 birds. Ringnecks came to South Dakota in 1891, where they met with such phenomenal success that they are now one of our most respected and popular citizens.

Scientists claim that success with ringnecks depends upon food and cover, ideal conditions being those found in the agricultural Mid-west. Of the two, food is probably the more important. Reports from China confirm this. Many Chinese farmers leave a small patch of grain for the pheasants, and the birds are as abundant in the Yangtze River valley now as they have ever been.

The United States is now the world's largest producer of pheasants, but even our tremendous production fails to meet the hunters' needs. Pheasants are not difficult to raise. The trouble is that only small percentage of our stocked birds

survive in the wild. That means that rearing hardier birds is the big job for the breeders—and improving habitat is the task facing the states, clubs and individual sportsmen. The same thing holds true of quail, to a certain extent.

All this suggests a partial solution to the posted land problem. Many sportsmen's clubs now raise or buy their own pheasants for release in areas where they can survive and furnish good shooting. In many cases it is cheaper to buy birds from private breeders than to raise them in unsuitable quarters. Either way, clubs and individuals can improve local shooting at a reasonable cost.

Just north of New York City the Sportsmen's Club of North Westchester raises its own birds from day-old chicks provided by the state, and releases them just before the season opens. The Orange County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of New York releases club-reared birds, as well as many purchased out of club funds, to restock surrounding areas open to members for hunting. Clubs in many other states are doing the same with both pheasants and quail.

This department will be happy to supply you with further information to help you increase the game bird supply in your own hunting area. We offer this service because we've all got to contribute if we want to continue enjoying outdoor sports in the years to come.



The United States is the world's largest producer of pheasants, but we still fail to meet the hunters' demand for birds. (Rosebud Photo Co., Gregory, S. D.)

COCKER COMEBACK

By HENRY P. DAVIS, KENNEL EDITOR

Sure, the cocker's a good house pet but he's a topflight gun dog as well

THE OTHER night I sat at dinner with a group of cocker spaniel enthusiasts in New York and listened with a great deal of pleasure to a discussion of this fall's plans for cocker spaniel activities in field trials. About ten years ago, the sport of cocker spaniel field trials had just about reached its peak in this country. The war years found it in a decided decline but to one who has the interest of the breed sincerely at heart, it is most encouraging to know that this sport is again on the upgrade and the coming season is approached with renewed vigor and enthusiasm.

At the dinner there was considerable good-natured banter concerning a recent article written by a protagonist of the Weimaraner, a new breed to this country which has recently been widely publicized. The article expressed the hope that the Weimaraner, said to be famous as a hunting dog in its native Germany, would not suffer the same fate as the cocker spaniel in America—"degenerate into a household pet". Coming from an exponent of a breed that has yet to win its spurs in American game fields, the remark was considered as decidedly premature, to say the least. In this I thoroughly agree.

For many years the cocker spaniel has been a favorite with many grouse and woodcock gunners. Since the importation of the ringneck pheasant and the spread of this wily bird through many of the states in the northern tier, the cocker has become increasingly popular with sportsmen who go afield in search of the cagey Chink. The popularity of the cocker as a household pet is no fault of his. On the contrary, this redounds with great credit on the handsome little fellow who is so anxious to please his master in any capacity possible. In fact, many cocker spaniel owners have been converted to the sport of hunting through interest in their dogs. They bought their spaniels originally as household pets, but later became interested in seeing what the "cocking spaniel" would do in the field. In the majority of cases they were not disappointed.

Anyone who has any doubt as to the cocker spaniel's field abilities should drop in on any of the eight field trials planned for the East this fall. Stakes,

both for cockers and springers, will be held at each event and here the spectator will see this busy little game-getter display his wares in the tough going of typical hunting country. Starting early this fall and ending in November, the trials will be held on six successive week-ends. They will be held at Albany, Verbank, Armonk and Long Island, all in New York State and at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

In each event the dogs will be worked under ordinary hunting conditions, must find, flush, mark and retrieve their game and show proper con-

trol and manners under the gun. Spectators are always welcome. The author of the article discussed above will be especially welcome and accorded every courtesy.

The cocker spaniel does not confine his field excellence to routing and retrieving game birds. As a rabbit dog he ranks right along with the best. He wouldn't put him in a class with the beagle or basset, for these little hounds are specialists on this type of game. But "feather or fur" is the spaniel's dish and he seldom takes a back seat in this department.



Cockers can't be beat on pheasants and they're rabbit-getters, too

PHOTO BY H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

several years ago Hartwell "Bucky" here, one of America's leading span-judges and field trial guns, owned a couple of cockers over which he had shed heavily on pheasants and rabbits on Long Island. Returning from a hunt he stopped at a gasoline station to replenish his tank. The proprietor, being a sportsman, showed interest in the spaniels and, upon being informed that they were topnotch rabbits in addition to their abilities on pheasant, volunteered that he and his partner had a couple of hounds that could "beat them spaniels all hollow at hunting rabbits in the bag". To Moore, the words sounded a challenge and a match was promptly made, size of coming's bag to count.

Moore's shooting ability undoubtedly proved but, at any rate, the cockers did that match to the tune of better than two to one. "You were in better territory" was the alibi and another match was arranged with the hound men having the choice of hunting rabbits. Again the results were the same. Then, the garage owners discuss other matters when Moore comes and.

don't ever sell the cocker short as a gun dog. He's always been just as he always will be a gun dog as long as men like John Jacobsen, Monty Davis, Henry Berol, Elias Vail, Hartwell Moore, Peter Garvan, Ralph Craig and Col. Quirk maintain their interest. According to many close students, the cocker of today shows more field promise than those of ten years ago. The revival of field trial interest will undoubtedly bolster the program to breed better field dogs. Field trial interest always stems from interest in gun dogs. A field trial dog is nothing more than a top flight gun dog.

When one views a class of top flight cockers being shown at one of the major bench shows, it is not surprising that uninformed spectators get the idea that the cocker is not a sporting dog. Taken from the show ring and placed directly in the hunting field, any one of the contenders would be heavily handicapped by the excessive coat he must carry if he is to win bench show honors these days. This excessive coat, in my humble opinion, serves no practical purpose whatsoever. It would be a severe handicap in the field, would catch in briars, become caked with mud and impede the progress of the dog in water retrieving. Why bench show judges require it is beyond me. It conceals the conformation of the dog insofar as his running gear goes, and a good running gear is vital to a hunting dog. The sooner bench show judges upon all this unnecessary and impractical adornment and strip the practical little worker of his impeding drapery, the sooner the public



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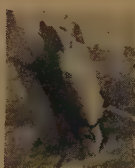
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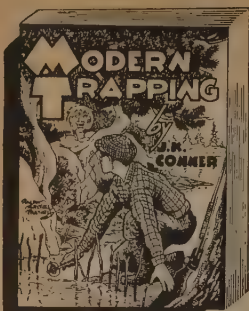
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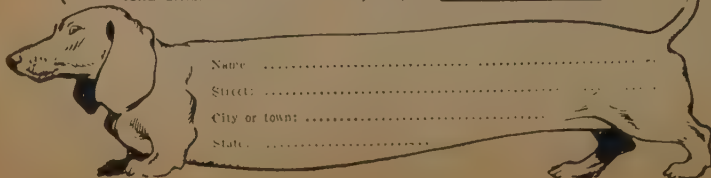
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The fall activities will start on Oct. 2 and 3 with the staging of the Long Island Cocker Spaniel Club trials. Following will be the trials at Albany, N.Y. on Oct. 8 and 19. The Cocker Spaniel Club of America will hold an annual event at Milbrook, N.Y. on Oct. 15 and 16. One week later the trials of the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association will be held at Hampton Beach, Long Island. On Oct. 28 and 29, the Valley Forge, Pa. trials will be held, to be followed on Nov. 5 and 6 by the Connecticut Spaniel Field Trial Association at Greenwich and the Bath County Field Trial Club at Hot Springs, Va. on Nov. 11 and 12. The eastern spaniel field trial season will close with the stakes of the New Jersey Spaniel Field Trial Club at Hills, N.J. on Nov. 18 and 19.

Elementary Spaniel Training is the title of a splendid little booklet written by Ralph C. Craig for the American Spaniel Club and distributed by the organization free to all who request it. Much valuable information is contained in this handsome brochure. If you want a copy write the American Spaniel Club, 42 Broadway, New York 4, N.Y. or John J. Jacobsen, 123 E. 37th Street, New York 16, N.Y.

Lost—3,000,000 Ducks

A RATHER startling statement recently issued by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service again brings home the necessity of retrieving every game bird falling to the gun.

This statement is to the effect that post-season hunter checks made by the Service indicates that out of every ducks brought down within sight of hunter, one was not retrieved. This represents 16 per cent of the birds brought down, a rather appalling waste of a great natural resource which needs constant conservation interest for survival. In actual figures, this crippling loss totals 3,000,000 ducks in the United States and 5,000 in Alaska! These figures, however, do not tell the whole story for many hard-hit ducks sail out of sight before falling to die a lingering death or become victim to predators.

This enormous waste could be eliminated almost to the extent of elimination if every duck hunter would use a retrieving dog. No matter what breed any dog that will hit the water, land and catch cripples and return them to the game bag makes an important contribution to his master's pleasure as well as to the conservation of wildlife resources. And the sport of duck hunting can be immeasurably enhanced by watching a top retriever make a

difficult retrieve, giving you thrills which cannot possibly come when you wade or pole out to chase down your own cripples. Any hunter who has used a good retriever in duck hunting will readily agree that a dog can penetrate reeds and find hiding places which no human can negotiate. The pride of possession that accompanies the ownership of a topflight retriever cannot be measured in dollars and cents. A few ducks and retrieves and that dog has well earned his keep for the long months in which he cannot be used in actual hunting. But the pleasure he gives need not end with the close of the hunting season. There are scores of ways in which you may enjoy his retriever, so obvious that no mention is necessary.

Think it over now. And next season, get a retriever. Make every shot count, but get that dead or crippled bird.

New Medicines

At Columbia University, Drs. Charles A. A. Slanetz and Albert Scharf have been conducting some interesting, and effective, experiments aimed toward the solution of the problem of recurrent summer itch. The experiments dealt with the effects of soybean phosphatides and the utilization of vitamin A and carotene. Two per cent soybean lecithin was fed to dogs infected with summer itch and wheezing eczema, with excellent results. The scientists explain that the introduction of the new factor, in helping the vitamin A metabolism, in turn has its effect on skin condition. The factor is being incorporated in a new form of phosphatized cod liver oil which is being placed on the market.

"Tyroscabe" Solution, a new antibi-

otic scabicide, has been found effective in the treatment of several types of skin diseases in dogs. Dr. Alan Bachrach, veterinarian of Philadelphia, has conducted extensive tests in which the new treatment showed splendid results. Dry eczema, weeping eczema, demodectic and scabietic mange were among the infections treated.

Cleanliness of the dog and kennel is the best insurance against summertime skin diseases and parasite troubles. Remove the droppings as soon as possible and keep the kennel yard cleaned daily.

And don't forget to provide plenty of fresh water and shade. A good brushing daily, going over the dog's coat with a firmly bristled brush for a period of at least ten minutes, will keep his coat and skin in good condition unless he is constantly exposed to filth.

And don't overlook the fact that the dog needs exercise in summertime as well as in any other period. It is best to give it to him in the cool of the morning or evening. A thirty minute romp or a couple of short runs daily will help a lot. Don't let him overdo it, but keep him keen for the next time.

Tick Killer

This department has long since adopted an iron-bound policy of never recommending any product until we have personally given it a thorough test. When a product has proved its efficiency to our satisfaction, however, we have no reluctance in giving it our endorsement. Such a product is "Sergeant's Tick Killer," manufactured by Polk Miller Products Corporation of Richmond, Va., long-established producers of kennel specialties and dog remedies.



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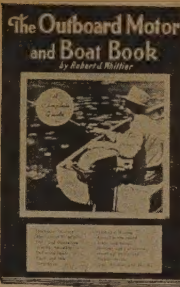
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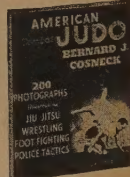
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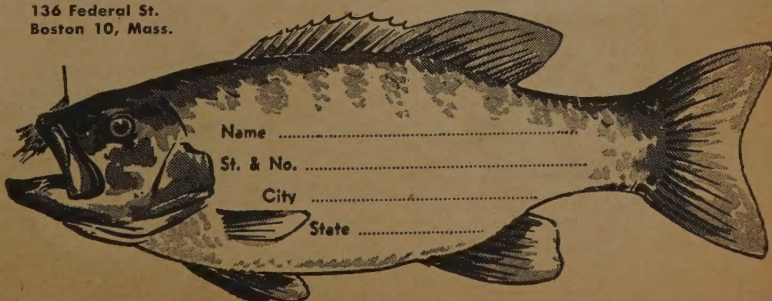
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YOU will want to read the hot-off-the-griddle news about the Outdoors Big Fish Contest in all coming issues. This is the biggest fish contest ever held, with \$6500 in merchandise prizes, new Nash 1950 cars for tops, and with a real chance for any angler, you included, to win. The next 12 issues of Outdoors are also jam-packed with just the kind of red-blooded outdoor reading you like. Mail the fish coupon below with only \$1.

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The MAIL BOX

OUTDOORS welcomes your letters. Address them The Mail Box, 136 Federal Street, Boston 10, M. We'll publish as many of them as space will permit.

THE WINNER SAYS—

EDITOR: Words cannot express the pleasure and surprise with which I received your letter notifying me that I had won first prize in your Bait-naming Contest. I worked very hard on it, but never expected my entry would come out on top.

Here are the prizes I choose:

Rod—Actionglas, 5½ feet, made by Orchard Industries Inc. I'd like to have this rod immediately, if possible, so that I can use it in the Southeastern Skish Tournament at Savannah, Ga. I won the Florida State Skish Championship at St. Petersburg, Fla., earlier this year, as you may know.

Reel—Coxe Model 25-C Bait Casting Champion.

Line—South Bend Black-Oreno nylon, 15-lb. test, 100 yards.

Thanks again for a wonderful contest and for the generous prizes.

MRS. DOROTHY M. HILL,
INVERNESS, FLA.



Skish champion Dorothy Hill named 88 of the 93 lures on our May covers

A LOSER SUGGESTS—

EDITOR: Since your Bait-naming Contest was so successful, how about staging a fly-naming contest in which your readers would be challenged to name wet and dry flies, nymphs and bass bugs?

HOWARD YORK,
BLOOMINGTON, CALIF.

• We're working on that idea now, for a spring issue. We'll give you the details when we've got 'em ironed out.

DALTON/SHAKESPEARE

EDITOR: In identifying the lures for your bait-naming contest, you listed No. 50, the Dalton Special, as manufactured by P. P. Dalton. This is not exactly true. The bait is manufactured by the Shakespeare Co. Mr. Dalton owns the patent and distributes orders, but the Shakespeare Co. is the manufacturer.

J. LESTER ELED
SPARTANBURG, S.C.

• Correct. Most contestants correctly identified No. 50 as "manufactured by P. P. Dalton by the Shakespeare Co." Our judges gave full credit when either Dalton or Shakespeare or both were listed with the Dalton Special.

'CHUCKS AT 50 YARDS

EDITOR: That woodchuck hunting article in the July number, in which the author brags of making a double 'chuck at 50 yards, is the reason 'chucks are so scarce today.

DENIS J. DUB
VALHALLA, N.Y.



• Pete Barrett, author of the 'chuck hunting article, described that episode because it was so unusual. He also quotes an estimate of 200 million as the woodchuck population of New York and New England. There are plenty 'chucks at 200 yards for the hunter who can find 'em.

—AND WITH .22's

EDITOR: Pete Barrett's article on woodchuck hunting was excellent, but I disagree with his statement that the .22 rimfire is not a good 'chuck load. I have used it for three years and have lost only three 'chucks in all that time. I use a Marlin with rear peep sight and have scored clean kills at 150 yards using hollow point bullets.

KENNETH MILLER
GLEN ROCK, PENN.

• An expert marksman can kill 'chuck and even deer, with the .22 rimfire. But that doesn't make it the proper load, for in any but the most expert hands it is a notorious crippler.